

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 451.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1854.

[Price 6d.]



LONDON AND LIVERPOOL

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WANTED, an APPRENTICE: no Premium required.—Apply to STILES and Co., Grocers, &c., Ongar, Essex.

WANTED, immediately, an active, intelligent YOUTH as an Apprentice to the Grocery Business.—Apply to HENRY HICKS, grocer, Louth, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, in a School, an intelligent, well-disposed, and conscientious SERVANT, as wardrobe keeper, partial laundress, and partial housemaid.—Apply to W. W., Primrose-hill House, Coventry.

WANTED, in a small family, an active, GENERAL SERVANT. Age, about 25. For cards of address, apply to Mr. PYLE, butcher, 8, Downham-road, Kingsland-road, London.

WANTED, immediately, a FEMALE to conduct the Millinery and Mantle department of a Country Business, and to wait behind the Drapery Counter. A Dissenter would be preferred.—Apply, Mr. R. LAMB, draper, Chatteris.

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WANTED, by a respectable Female, a situation as HOUSEKEEPER, or Companion to an Invalid Lady, or to wait in a Stationer and Bookseller's-shop, in which she has for some years had the advantage of home experience. The neighbourhood of London preferred. Most respectable references can be given.—Address, M. M., care of Mr. Mudie, 510, New Oxford-street.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED a Respectable YOUNG MAN. A Dissenter preferred.—Apply at 58, Bread-street, Cheapside.

TO DRAPERS.—The Advertiser has an excellent small Drapery Business to dispose of, doing an increasing ready-money trade: For particulars, apply to JOSEPH DUNN, Gillingham, Dorset.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, immediately, a respectable YOUNG MAN, who can be well recommended. A Christian preferred.—Address, stating age, salary, references, &c., to E. G. ALABONE, 20, St. James's-square, Newport, Isle of Wight.

TO DRAPERS' CLERKS, &c.—Wanted, within about thirty miles from London, in a highly respectable Silk Mercer's, a respectable, active Young Man, competent to the care of a set of books, as BOOK-KEEPER, and qualified to assist occasionally behind the counter.—Address, S. G., at Mr. Wood's, Milk-street.

BOARD and EDUCATION (including Latin, &c.) for Young Gentlemen, £14 per Annum. Mr. W. C. CLARK, Brill, Bucks.

AS STEWARD or COLLECTOR of RENTS, &c. Good Reference, and Security to any Amount.—B. J., 65, Piccadilly.

TO be LET on Lease, or otherwise, a commodious Chapel, situated in Friar-street, Doctors'-commons. For particulars apply at No. 6, Cannon-place, Old-street, or Red House, Cutler-street, Houndsditch.

R. SOUL, Parade, Tonbridge Wells, House Agent, Grocer, &c., will be happy to communicate with Families visiting "The Wells," respecting Dwelling Houses, or Apartments. All letters post-paid.

GENTLEMEN engaged during the day, seeking retired and comfortable Apartments, with Partial Board if required, may obtain the same at a moderate charge by applying to W. C., No. 8, Princes-road, Bermondsey.

MINISTERS and SCHOOLMASTERS

may materially aid their incomes, and benefit their respective neighbourhoods by an engagement of a most gentlemanly and philanthropic character.—Apply, by letter, to J. T., 41, Gerrard-street, Soho.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.

Wanted, in a pious family, a respectable Youth as an APPRENTICE to the Watch, Clock, and Working Jewellery business. He will be treated as one of the family, and taught his trade on first class principles.—Address, H. W. CARTWRIGHT, Guildford-street, Chertsey, Surrey.

A YOUNG LADY, who has been engaged

in teaching, wishes to obtain a SITUATION in a School or Family. She is competent to instruct in the usual branches of English, French, Music, and Drawing. References to the Rev. J. Allen, Chudleigh, Devon; Rev. W. Pike, Elmore, Tiverton, Devon; and to the lady with whom she has been engaged.—Address, S. J. S., 5, Clark's-terrace, Lewisham-road, New-cross, Kent.

BERKSHIRE, in the picturesque Village

of SINDLESHAM, near to Bear Wood Park. TO BE LET, two newly built semi-detached residences with three bedrooms, front parlour (15ft. by 11ft.), sitting-room (11ft. 8in. by 10ft. 10in.), Kitchen, Wash house, and good garden,—soft and spring water laid on. Rent £15 each. About half-a-mile from the Church, and close to a Dissenting Chapel—with cheap railway communication with London.—Inquire of Messrs. WEEKS and SIMMONS, House and Estate Agents, Wokingham, Berks.

AGED or INFIRM BAPTIST MINISTERS

SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting of this Society (D. V.) will be held at the Baptist College, Stokes-croft, Bristol, on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28th, at Six o'clock in the evening.

THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

of TWICKENHAM CHAPEL, Twickenham-green will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant.

In the MORNING, at 12, a SERMON will be preached by the Rev. WILLIAM LEASK, of Kennington.

In the AFTERNOON, at 3, there will be a PUBLIC MEETING; SAMUEL MORTON PETO, Esq., M.P., in the Chair. The Revs. W. Brock, J. Leechman, A.M., W. Leask, T. Smith, W. G. Lewis, and Peter Broad, Esq., and other gentlemen, have kindly promised to attend.

In the EVENING, at half-past 6, the Rev. WILLIAM BROCK, of Bloomsbury Chapel, will preach.

* * * A Cold Collation and Tea will be provided in the School-room. Tickets, 2s. 6d. each. For the Tea only, 8d.

Trains will leave the Waterloo Station at 10.20; 10.45; 11.15; 11.45; 12.45; 2.35; 3.15; 4.15; 4.45; 5.15.

THE TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION,

will hold the following SINGING SERVICES, to be conducted by the Rev. John Curwen.

DATE.	PLACE.	TO PRESIDE.
Tuesday, June 27,	Craven Chapel.	Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A.
Wednesday, July 5,	Islington Chapel.	Rev. B. S. Hollis.
Tuesday, " 11,	Barnsbury Chapel.	Rev. T. Lessey.

Books of the Words may be had, price 3d. each, of Messrs. Ward and Co., Paternoster-row, of various booksellers in the respective neighbourhoods, or at the doors of the chapels on the evenings of meeting.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

—The distinctive features of this Association are—That all Education should be religious, but, at the same time, so free from Sectarian influence as to secure the sympathy and co-operation of all denominations of Evangelical Christians; and that the State, being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to Voluntary effort.

THE COMMITTEE having obtained ELIGIBLE APPOINTMENTS for those Pupils who have recently completed their course of study, have now a few VACANCIES in their Normal School for YOUNG MEN desirous of qualifying themselves for SCHOOLMASTERS.

The term of instruction is Twelve months; and the Course comprises, in addition to the usual routine of a sound English Education, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Biblical Studies, Singing, Drawing, and School Practice.

HENRY RICHARD, } Hon. Secs.
JOSEPH BARRETT, }

7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

BRITISH and FOREIGN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION.

At the Twenty-ninth Annual General Meeting of this Association, held at the New Gravel-Pit Chapel, Hackney, on Wednesday, June 7th, 1854, Robert Scott, Esq., of Stourbridge, in the chair, the following Resolutions were unanimously passed:—

Moved by the Rev. JOHN JAMES TAYLER, B.A., seconded by the Rev. WILLIAM JAMES—

"That petitions be adopted for presentation to the Houses of Lords and Commons, praying that the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge may, in accordance with their original design and purpose, be opened to all Her Majesty's subjects, without distinction of creed or sect."

Moved by the Rev. EDMUND KELL, seconded by ROBERT WRIGHT, Esq.—

"That this meeting have seen with great regret, the rejection by the House of Commons, of the bill introduced by Lord John Russell, for simplifying the oaths to be taken by Members of Parliament; but while they deeply regret what appears to be a departure from the great principles of civil and religious liberty, they trust that the time is not far distant when the efforts made in various ways to free conscience from unrighteous restrictions may be attended with complete success."

JOHN WEBB, Resident Secretary.
178, Strand, London, June 9th, 1854.

TO TRADESMEN AND OTHERS.

HEADCORN ACADEMY, conducted by T. D. ROFE. A good English Education on moderate Terms. Situation healthy: close to the South-Eastern Railway. Prospectuses forwarded on application.

MRS. THORNTON, Wycliffe Villa, near

Stockport, has an opening for a PUPIL TEACHER. The accomplishments by Professors. A Vacancy for one Young Lady. Terms on application.

OVER HALL, MIRFIELD.—At this

Establishment, Young Ladies receive a superior and accomplished Education. The house, which is situated in its own grounds, is well known as a healthy and beautiful residence. Prospectuses, with highly respectable references, will be forwarded on application to Mrs. ELLIS DAWSON, the Principal.

NO. 100, MARY-STREET, WEY-

MOUTH, DORSET.—Miss Smith, assisted by Miss Cobbin (Granddaughter of the late Rev. Ingram Cobbin), receives TWELVE Young Ladies to Board and Educate. THREE vacancies now occur. The Pupils enjoy much of the pastoral care and conversational Lectures of the Rev. J. T. Smith, Nicholas-street Chapel. Weymouth is pleasantly situated on the coast, its beautiful bay affording EXCELLENT SEA BATHING—of easy access by rail. Terms, Twenty-four guineas per Annum. NO EXTRA CHARGES.—References are kindly permitted to parents of pupils.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES,

King-street, Leicester.—The MISSES MIALI, whose School has been established for many years, continue to receive a limited number of Young Ladies for BOARD and EDUCATION. They will have VACANCIES FOR PUPILS after the Midsummer Vacation.

TERMS, THIRTY-FIVE GUINEAS PER ANNUM. The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.

References: Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford; E. Miall, M.P., Sydenham Park, London; William Sunderland, Esq., Ashton-under-Lyne; and Rev. G. Miall, Ullethorpe.

The duties of school will re-commence on Thursday the 27th of July.

A vacancy for an articled Pupil.

TO the COMMITTEE of BRITISH and

other DAY-SCHOOLS.—The Committee of the Voluntary School Association beg to inform the Committees of British and other Day-Schools that there are in their Female Normal Establishment, several Young Women, thoroughly trained as Teachers, who have just completed their term of Education, and are ready to accept engagements in Schools conducted on the Voluntary Principle. There are several Vacancies for Pupils in the Male Normal School, in regard to which they will be happy to receive applications from Young Men wishing to devote themselves to the work of Tuition. Communications may be addressed to either of the Honorary Secretaries, the Rev. HENRY RICHARD or JOSEPH BARRETT, Esq., at the office of the Society, No. 7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

THE WEST of ENGLAND DISSEN-

TERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON, will RE-OPEN, after the Midsummer vacation, on TUESDAY the 25th JULY, 1854.

PRESIDENT—T. THOMPSON, Esq.
VICE-PRESIDENTS—R. ASH, Esq., W. D. WILLS, Esq., and H. O. WILLS, Esq., Bristol.

TREASURER—S. POLLARD, Esq., Taunton.

HONORARY-SECRETARIES—The Rev. H. ADDISCOTT, and the Rev. H. QUICK, Taunton.

All applications for Terms, and the admission of Pupils, to be made to the Rev. T. CLARK, M.A., Principal; or to the Rev. J. S. UNDERWOOD, Corresponding Secretary, Taunton.

TO SCHOOL TUTORS.—The following

MASTERS are WANTED for a Central English School at the end of July next:—

A CLASSICAL and MATHEMATICAL MASTER. A Graduate of London, or one who has passed University College, preferred for this post.

A FRENCH MASTER, who can teach German. A Frenchman preferred.

A JUNIOR ENGLISH MASTER, well acquainted with what is known as the Pestalozzian method of teaching.

One or other of the above must be able to conduct a Vocal Music Class (Hullah's method), and to teach Drawing thoroughly. Candidates will have to supply satisfactory testimony of adequate scholarship, proficiency in the principles, practice, and methods of teaching, moral fitness, gentlemanly propriety, and attachment to their work. No engagement will be completed without an interview.

Apply, first, to M. M., Messrs. Rolfe's, 150, Aldersgate-street, London, where a prospectus of the school may be seen. It is desired that no gentleman will apply except he possess the requisite qualifications.

PERRY-HILL HOUSE ESTABLISH-

MENT, SYDENHAM.—Conducted by Mrs. J. W. TODD. The entire arrangements of this establishment are such as enable the Principal to confidently offer every scholastic advantage.

THE COURSE OF TUITION comprises—English, French, Italian, German, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Music, Drawing in all styles, &c. OBJECTS AIMED AT,—the union of domestic comfort and school discipline; the highest intellectual and moral culture; qualification, by habits of thoroughness and self-reliance, for the responsibilities of life.

The Mansion and Grounds are extensive, elevated, easy of access, and afford every facility.

TERMS:—THIRTY GUINEAS. Full particulars and references by post.

Referees:—A. Pellatt, Esq., M.P.; H. Brown Esq., M.P.; Mrs. Clara L. Balfour; Revs. F. Trestrail, S. J. Davis, J. P. Murrell, Dr. Redford, T. Thomas, Pontypool; and D. Pratt, Esq., London; Revs. A. M. Stalker, J. J. Brown, S. Manning, J. C. Middleditch, T. Winter, G. H. Davis, J. C. Salisbury, and J. Toone, Esq.

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[PRICE 6d.]

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Eccliaastical Affairs.

FIREBRANDS AND MADMEN.

AN old adage warns sensible people of the danger of putting a firebrand into the hands of a madman. One might imagine the advice to be useless, did not events every now and then turn up to show that the blunder is being constantly committed by parties having some reputation for prudence. Still, in common life, one disaster generally effects a cure; and good-natured folly, taught by experience, ceases to knot the whip which is destined for its own shoulders. But legislatures are slow to learn, especially when called upon to correct ecclesiastical mistakes. It has long since appeared, by many instances, that to entrust civil power to men for religious purposes, is the most certain way to legal oppression. The history of State Churches is a continuous illustration of the propensity of ecclesiastics to abuse such power, limited only by the constraint of external circumstances—and to persecute, according to their opportunities, seems to be the instinct of all religious bodies and functionaries, whenever armed with the terrors of the law. Nevertheless, so little has the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain profited by the lesson which all history enforces, that the House of Commons is this very day engaged in debating whether or not one sect shall continue to have the power of compelling all other sects to maintain its religious edifices and worship.

Church-rates have been spoken of, and that by no less a personage than Lord John Russell, as property belonging to the Church of England. They are not property in any sense—far less in the sense implied by Lord John Russell's language. They are a *tax*, the legal right to levy which, in her behalf, is all that the Church can claim with the smallest semblance of reason. But even this right is not absolutely her's—she holds it only by consent from year to year. A Church-rate, granted in vestry assembled, may be loosely spoken of as property—a power, contingent on the will of others, to levy Church-rates, cannot be accurately so described. What the Legislature has to deal with in this case is not money—but a legal power, under certain circumstances, to raise money by taxation—and further, the power which they are now called upon to abolish, is a power committed, not to the Church, in the modern sense of the term, but to parishioners, whether they be in communion with the Church, or dissent from it. To couple, therefore, the abolition of this power with compensation to the established sect, as Lord John Russell hints at doing, is a gross absurdity, and only shows how easily the eyes of a clear judgment may be dazzled and darkened by a familiar and darling prejudice.

As if to give the last emphasis to the prayers of thousands of petitioners, to abolish the principle of legal compulsion in the maintenance of religious institutions, an obscure country town in Hampshire, rejoicing in the name of Ringwood, has recently furnished the public with a practical memorandum of the mischiefs which may be perpetuated, at will, under the present odious and anomalous system. Picture to yourselves a brace of honest and hard-working agricultural labourers, earning each nine

shillings a-week, and each, in these days of high prices, finding it difficult, out of this scanty sum, to provide bread for themselves, their wives, and their children! Fancy these poor men, persecuted from week to week, for a paltry Church-rate which they cannot pay—threatened with consequences it is out of their power to avert—summoned before clerical magistrates, who rudely and cruelly tell them that if they cannot afford to pay Church-rates they have no business to be house-keepers—and tortured by hearing a command given to magisterial clerks, to make out warrants of distress! Who can blame these poor men, that on their return home—"forwarned, forearmed"—one of them should dispose of his few chattels, and the other should keep his door locked day and night? And now, follow the "blue jacket," or, in other words, the policeman, as, on the State-Church's errand, he proceeds to execute the law against these unwilling malefactors! They are apprehended—led off, hand-cuffed, to the police-station, where they are kept without food from eleven o'clock a.m. of one day, to seven a.m. on the next, after which they are carried to Winchester Gaol, stripped of their garments, washed, cropped, and clothed as felons, kept in all respects under prison discipline, and released only after several days confinement, upon payment of the rate and costs by sympathising friends! Would any one have conceived such an atrocity possible in the present day? Why not? Hand round the firebrand indiscriminately, and it is sure occasionally to come into the hands of fools. If the men who perpetrated this legal outrage are worthy of indignation, how much more culpable are the statesmen who, for the sake of convenience to political party, insist upon preserving the system which arms these clerical tyrants with magisterial power?

To the above illustration we beg to add another, recorded in the columns of the *Plymouth Journal*. In Cornwall there is a certain little fishing town called Mevagissey, and in it resides one Thomas Dunn, a fisherman. This man and his wife, mindful of the charities of life, received under their roof, some time since, the husband's grandmother, nearly ninety years of age, who, early in April last, bowed down by infirmity, departed this state. Dunn and his wife followed the corpse of their relative to the grave, and the wind being strong, bleak, and easterly, all the males who appeared at the grave kept their hats on. The curate, Mr. Summerford, not knowing, we suppose, the meaning of the text, "I will have mercy, and not sacrifice," noticed that when the order was given to take hats off, Dunn only lifted his hat on the top of his head. The following dialogue must be given as we have received it:—

"The curate then said, 'If you do not take off your hats I cannot read the service.' There was a pause. The curate then said (turning to the undertaker), 'Mr. Roberts, I mean that gentleman behind you.' Thomas Dunn then said, 'If you mean me, Sir, I cannot take off my hat; I am unwell.' The curate replied, 'I cannot read the service if you do not take off your hat.' Thomas Dunn's wife then spoke, and said, 'He is delicate, Sir; he cannot take off his hat.' The curate said, 'I am delicate, and I have taken off my hat; if he could not take off his hat he should not have come here; he had better leave; I cannot proceed with the service.' Thomas Dunn then said, 'I am not told anywhere in the Bible to take off my hat, nor shall I do it to please man.' The curate then said, 'It is not to please man, it is to please God.' Thomas Dunn replied, 'It is to please you, Sir; I shall not do it.' The curate then said, 'The Apostle St. Paul said, 'No man could pray with his hat on.' Thomas Dunn replied, 'I can pray as well with my hat on as with it off.'"

Well, theologically, the Mevagissey fisherman seems to have had the best judgment of the two. But, mark the result! The curate informed his vicar, the vicar his bishop, and Dunn receives a citation to appear before the Consistorial Court at Exeter, "to answer for brawling in the churchyard of Mevagissey," on the day of his poor grandmother's funeral. The prosecutors seem to have been subsequently ashamed of their proceedings, inasmuch as they offered to forego proceedings, in case Dunn would consent to sign a confession of his fault, and pay the costs incurred. This, like an outraged but not spiritless man, he refused

to do, and has determined rather to meet his doom, which will probably be imprisonment *sine die*, until his "soul's health" is established, and submission to his Ordinary is duly made.

To reason with clergymen capable of such acts is manifestly futile. Possibly, they are as sincere as fanatics usually are. The misfortune is theirs—the fault is the law's. We ought not to arm bigots with the power of inflicting mischief. Let the ecclesiastical courts hurl, if they will, their mimic thunderbolts of excommunication, and exercise, in what spirit they please, their high ghostly prerogatives. But, in pity's name, keep the sword of the magistrate out of the hands of the clergy. A false notion of their power evermore prompts them to wield it—and whilst they wound others they usually cut themselves. Disarm the madmen! Pluck from their hands the firebrand which they know not how to use except for evil! This is the moral preached to us by such events as those we have briefly narrated—and, unless we heed it, and act on it, we have no right to express astonishment that such and such acts of intolerance can be found to disgrace our country's annals in this the middle of the nineteenth century.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

It was announced in our last number that a public meeting would be held in the City this evening, to petition Parliament to abolish religious tests at the Universities, but as several of the members of the House of Commons, whose presence was desirable, were found to be engaged, a postponement was thought desirable. The altered position of the Bill will now, we presume, lead to the abandonment of the meeting, as it will be seen that the House of Commons has quickened its pace, and got through all the clauses of the Bill. As it was felt to be most important that the proposal to admit Dissenters to the Universities should be debated under favourable circumstances, representations were made to the Government, which induced them readily to agree that the discussion should take place on the bringing up of the report to-morrow (Thursday). Those who are familiar with the forms of the House will be aware, that this is a very advantageous arrangement, as both the debate and the division will be likely to be more important than if they were to take place in committee. It is not a little singular, and illustrative of the ecclesiastical character of the present times, that the two questions of the session in which Dissenters are most deeply interested—Church-rates and University tests—should be debated, and, perhaps, disposed of, on two successive days.

THE IMPRISONED RINGWOOD LABOURERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—The letter which appeared in your journal of the 7th inst., has brought me two classes of communications, the one expressing incredulity: the other more than confirming the accuracy of the published statement.

Thus, while a gentleman on the Stock Exchange tells me that he is "attacked from several quarters on account of the 'overdone' and 'extravagant'" character of the narrative, and that "both Churchmen and Dissenters say that the treatment described is too atrocious to be, in this land, possible," one who writes from the spot thus addresses me—

"Your too truthful and heart-stirring letter no one would doubt if they lived in the vicinity in which such atrocious deeds were enacted, and would take the trouble to inquire into the circumstances of the case. It is true that only two men were incarcerated, but instances are to be found, in which, when a sufficiency of food was not to be obtained but by trust, to avoid a summons the money has been borrowed to pay the Church-rate, and with what prospect of repayment those best can tell, and painfully feel, who have only 9s. a-week, when their bread bill alone consumes more than their earnings."

SCRIPTURE-READERS TO TURKEY.—

SOLDIERS' FRIEND SOCIETY, instituted for the purpose of diffusing Religious Knowledge throughout the British Army.

PATRON.—The Right Hon. the Lord R. Grosvenor, M.P.
Office, 15, Exeter Hall, Strand, London.

DEPARTURE OF MESSRS. FELLOWS AND RAY FOR CONSTANTINOPLE, AND MR. OWEN JONES FOR THE BALTIC.

The Committee of the Soldiers' Friend Society have great pleasure in announcing to their friends and the Christian public that the above Scripture-readers, appointed by them, are now on their way to their respective destinations, where through the Divine blessing, it is hoped, in a short time, they will arrive.

THE EXTENSIVE FIELD OF LABOUR OPENED TO THE SOCIETY.

And on which they have attempted to enter, suggests the need of a large increase to their foreign staff. The thousands of our fellow-countrymen embarked in the strife of nations, the great sacrifice they are necessarily called to make of religious privileges, the imminent peril in which their profession of arms involves them, together with the unpreparedness, it is feared, of many to exchange worlds, speak urgently to BRITISH CHRISTIANS to multiply the means of religious instruction and consolation to their brave and devoted fellow-countrymen in a foreign land. How few the means of religious improvement at present provided! How large the demand! How great the necessity!

IT IS PROPOSED TO SEND A SCRIPTURE-READER TO THE SCOTCH REGIMENTS.

A distinguished lady, the widow of a general officer, high in the service and estimation of his country, feeling the importance of such an appointment, has promised the Committee one-fourth of half the expense of such appointment, if three other Christian friends will join with her in equal proportions in this holy enterprise, thus leaving one-half of the funds to be found by the Committee. The Committee are only waiting the response to the distinguished lady's kind offer to immediately enter into the engagement.

THE MISSION TO THE BALTIC.

Previously unoccupied, but now taken up by the Committee at the earnest request of Christian friends at Sheffield (to whose liberality the Committee are much indebted), calls for more extensive aid than they can at the present moment afford to give. Yet they are not without hope that, perhaps shortly, their agent, Mr. Owen Jones, may be joined by others in that necessary department of Christian energy.

MALTA, WITH ITS 15,000 BRITISH TROOPS.

Presents to the Committee a desirable field of labour, which they would gladly occupy as a permanent station, and are only waiting the opportunity of so doing, being convinced that, where there is a station for British troops, the labours of the Scripture-reader are absolutely necessary.

In committing themselves, to the utmost of their ability, to the foreign mission now occupied by the Society, the Committee have not neglected their home operations. They have not only continued but increased their amount of home agency; and have reason to be increasingly grateful for the pleasing intelligence from that department of effort.

IN CONCLUDING THEIR APPEAL, THE COMMITTEE WOULD RESPECTFULLY URGE ON THEIR FRIENDS AND THE CHRISTIAN PUBLIC THE NECESSITY OF PRAYER AND LIBERAL EFFORT, THAT THEY MAY SO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF AGENCY THAT IT MAY IN SOME RESPECT BE EQUAL TO THE DEMAND.

Sums received since last advertisement.

Wm. Peek, Esq. £5 0 0	Mrs. Webster £0 5 0
Sir C. E. Eardley .. 1 1 0	Miss Heywood, coll. by—
Mr. Saltmarsh 0 10 0	Mrs. Smith 1 0 0
Rev. T. K. Yorke .. 1 0 0	Mrs. St. Clair 0 5 0
Rev. A. R. Fawcett .. 0 10 0	Miss Bowles 0 5 0
Rev. W. C. Badger .. 0 10 0	Mrs. Driffield 0 1 0
Half Collection at Har-	Miss Jennett, by Miss
noldby, Grimsby, by	Marsh 5 0 0
Rev. M. H. Becher 3 2 0	

For Scripture-reader to the Baltic.

Mrs. Henry Boyce £10 0 0

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. Burns, Esq., 17, Porteus-road, Paddington; by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. William A. Blake, at the Office, 15, Exeter Hall; by Rev. Dr. Marsh, Beckenham; by Messrs. Nisbet, Berners-street, Oxford-street; at the Office of the Record and Christian Times; and by the bankers, Royal British Bank, 429, Strand.

UNDER THE IMMEDIATE PATRONAGE OF

Her Most Gracious MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
Her Royal Highness THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER,
Her Royal Highness THE DUCHESS OF KENT,
Her Royal Highness THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE,
And numerous Ladies of high rank and distinction.

HOSPITAL for CONSUMPTION and DISEASES OF THE CHEST, BROMPTON. Incorporated by Act of Parliament.

A GRAND BAZAAR will be held on TUESDAY, the 27th inst., and two following days, by the kind permission of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, in the BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS OF GORE AND GROVE HOUSES, KENSINGTON GORE, for the special purpose of commemorating the opening of the New Wing. The following Ladies have kindly consented to preside at the Stalls:—

Her Grace THE DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND.	The Lady JOHN SOMERSET.
The Most Noble THE MARCHION-ESS OF AILESBUERY.	The Right Hon. Lady SOUTHAMPTON.
The Right Hon. THE COUNTESS OF DERBY.	The Right Honourable Lady LEIGH.
The Right Hon. THE COUNTESS OF JENSEY.	Dowager Lady SHELLEY.
The Right Hon. THE COUNTESS OF HARRINGTON.	Lady DYMOKE.
The Lady CHARLOTTE EGERTON.	Lady WEST.
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	Mrs. PHILIP ROSE.
	Mrs. QUAIN.

Donations of Work, Paintings, Drawings, Music, Autographs, Minerals, Botanical Specimens, and other suitable Articles, forwarded to the Ladies holding Stalls, or to the care of JAMES WADE, Esq., Grove House, Kensington Gore, or to the Secretary, at the Hospital, will be gratefully acknowledged.

Subscriptions and Donations will be received by the Treasurer, John Labouchere, Esq., Birch-lane; Messrs. Barclay and Co.; Cocks, Biddulph, and Co.; Cutts and Co.; Drummond and Co.; Glyn, Halifax and Co.; Hankeys and Co.; Herries, Farquhar and Co.; Ransom and Co.; Williams, Deacon, and Co. By Messrs. Rivington and Co., Waterloo-place; Hatchard and Co., Piccadilly; Nisbet and Co., Berners-street; and by the Secretaries, PHILIP ROSE, Hon. Sec. OSBORN P. CROSS, Sec.

Brompton, 1 June, 1854.

TO PARENTS.—ECONOMY IN BOYS

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	s.	d.		s.	d.
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Ardrossan	4	0	Hartlepool, West	3	0
Arthington for Otley	2	6	Haydon Bridge	3	0
Auchinleck	4	0	Hexham	3	0
Ayr	4	0	Huddersfield, Post Office ..	2	6
Barnsley	2	6	HULL, 36, Lowgate	2	6
Billingham	3	0	Irvine	4	0
BRIMINGHAM, 104, New-st. 1			Kilmarnock	4	0
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Blaydon	3	0	LIVERPOOL, 3, Exchange-		
BRADFORD, 9, Leeds-road 2			street, West	2	6
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Dulry	4	0	Paisley	4	0
Darlington	3	0	Pictou for Stokesley	3	0
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Dover, 7, Clarence-place ..	2	0	Redcar	3	0
Dunfries	3	0	Redheugh (Gateshead) ..	3	0
Etherley	3	0	Ripon	2	6
Eston	3	0	Sanquhar	4	0
Ferryhill	3	0	Seaton	3	0
GLASGOW, 147, Queen-street			Shildon	3	0
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Goole	2	6	Thirsk	2	6
Gravesend, 45, The Terrace 1			Troon	4	0
Guilford	3	0	Thornhill	3	0
Halifax, Union-street	2	6	Wakefield, Market-place ..	2	6
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Fresh Lists with additional Stations will shortly be published. The Offices of the Company are at the Railway Stations of the towns above named, where the names of the towns only are given.

THREEPENCE per word extra is charged for each word above twenty, or if preferred, an addition of one-half the above rates for any number not exceeding ten extra words.

The strictest Secrecy is observed in the transmission and receipt of Messages.

All Messages are carefully sealed up and despatched the instant they arrive. No charge is made for postage within a distance of one mile from any station where the Company keep special Messengers. Beyond a mile, the charge is One Shilling per mile, not including the first mile.

By Order,

GEORGE SAWARD, Secretary British Telegraph Company.
G. L. PARROTT, Secretary Submarine & European Telegraph Companies.

London, June, 1854.

CRYSTAL PALACE—WHERE IS

FUTVOYE'S?—This having been a subject of much inquiry, induces Messrs. Futvoye and Co. to acquaint the Nobility and Gentry, that they have not any Establishment in the Crystal Palace, and the reason is, that they supplied so many of the Exhibitors at the Exhibition of 1851, as well as at those of Dublin and New York. It must, therefore, be obvious to all, that were they to become Exhibitors, it would be opposing some of their largest consumers. Many of their Patents, Registered Articles, and other manufactures, may be obtained of the retailers at the Crystal Palace, or at Messrs. Futvoye and Co's manufactory and wholesale warehouse, 154, Regent-street; 11, and 12, Beak-street; 28, and 29, Silver-street; and 34, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

FUTVOYE'S WEDDING and BIRTH-

DAY PRESENTS.—This establishment is allowed to possess the largest and choicest variety of English and Foreign Fancy Goods, both valuable and inexpensive, consisting of Jewellery, Watches, Clocks, Bronzes, Dressing and Writing Cases, Fancy Leather, Pearl, and Tortoiseshell Goods, Papier Maché, &c., many of which are admirably adapted for presents, and prove the already well known extensive nature of Messrs. Futvoye's wholesale transactions. Apart from this establishment, they are enabled to supply the best workmanship, combined with moderate charges, which, it is scarcely necessary to state, can only be effected in such cases. Retail, 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street; wholesale and export warehouse, 28 and 29, Silver-street, and 34, Rue de Rivoli, Paris. Illustrated Catalogues sent free on application.

HOUSEHOLDERS' AND GENERAL

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Money received on Deposits at 5 per cent. interest, payable half-yearly in April and October.

RICHARD HOBSON, Secretary.
15 and 16, Adam-street, Adelphi, London.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN ASSURANCE

SOCIETY. Chief Office—19, MOORGATE-STREET, London.—The Directors of this Company have much pleasure in informing their Clients and the Public, that they have opened Branch Offices at 8, Newhall-street, BIRMINGHAM; Albion Chambers, BRISTOL; 84, Lord-street, LIVERPOOL; 65, King-street, MANCHESTER; 1, Dean-street, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, 7, Alter Wandrahm, HAMBURG; and 95, Queen-street, PORTSEA.

Intending assurers should send for a copy of the last year's report.

JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT LAND

and BUILDING SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at RADLEY'S HOTEL, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 5, 1854, at Six o'clock precisely. A Ballot for Fifty Rights to allotments will take place at this meeting.

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

Offices, 22, New Bridge-street.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE and

FIRE ASSURANCE OFFICES, 37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

LIFE.—Extract from last Report, completion of seven years (Dec. 1853).—"Policies issued, 5,531, assuring £1,036,895; Members' Accumulated Fund, £62,237 13s. 8d.; Annual income, £30,000." The entire profits divided amongst the assured triennially. No charge for Policy Stamp. Loans granted on sufficient security.

Fire.—Profits divided triennially. Entire Mutuality. Policies issued, 10,989, for £4,800,869. Next division of profits, Midsummer, 1854.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL LIFE AS-

SURANCE and GENERAL DEPOSIT and ADVANCE COMPANY.

Provisionally Registered under 7 and 8 Vic., cap. ex.

Capital £100,000, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each, with power to increase to £200,000.

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The Union Bank of London.

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Messrs. Watson and Sons, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

This Company propose to issue to the Industrial Classes, Life Policies for sums as low as £10,—to receive the premiums in small amounts, at short intervals,—to make the Policies payable to Holder, to avoid expenses,—and to arrange for their surrender on equitable and definite terms, or commutation into a free Policy, for a fixed sum, if the party is unable to continue the payments.

In the Deposit and Advance Department, sums of any amount will be received at interest, and may be withdrawn at short notice, and advances granted on sufficient security.

* * * Applications for Shares to be made to the Secretary, at the Offices, 22, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, any day between Ten and Four o'clock, or by letter in the following form:—

Please to allot me Shares in the National Industrial Life Assurance and General Deposit and Advance Company.

Usual Signature.....
Residence.....
Business or Profession.....
SAMUEL GREEN, Secretary.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE

ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

INSTITUTED 1831.

HEAD OFFICE—26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

The Twenty-Third Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at Edinburgh on 2nd May, 1854; William Stuart Walker, Esq., of Bowland, in the Chair.

The Report read to the Meeting, and which was unanimously approved of, contained the following particulars:—

The number of Policies issued during the year ending 1st March is 620, the Sums Assured thereby being £282,715, giving an addition to the Income in Annual Premiums of £8,595.

The Policies lapsed by death during the year are 84, the Sums Assured by which amount to £49,850, and the Bonus Additions to £8,482, making together £58,332.

In comparing these sums with the amounts for the preceding year, they exhibit an increase of 17 in the number of New Policies, and of about £6,000 in the Sums Assured. The increase, though of moderate amount, must be considered satisfactory, especially when regard is had to the great competition which now exists in the business of Life Assurance.

The number of Policies lapsed by death is four under that of last year, and the amount payable nearly £7,000 less. Keeping in view the additions made to the business, and the increased age of the Members of the Society, these are most gratifying circumstances.

The Sums remaining Assured amount to £4,234,598;

The Annual Revenue amounts to £152,615;

And the Accumulated Fund is increased to £839,354.

VIEW OF THE PROGRESS AND SITUATION OF THE SOCIETY.

	Amount Assured.	Annual Revenue.	Accumulated Fund.
At 1st March 1836	£642,871	£21,916	£40,974
Do. 1842	1,685,067	61,851	191,496
Do. 1848	2,984,878	110,700	445,673
Do. 1854	4,234,598	152,615	839,354

PRESIDENT.

His Grace the DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH and QUEENSBERRY, K.G.

ORDINARY DIRECTORS.

WILLIAM STUART WALKER, Esq., of Bowland, Advocate.

JOHN MACKIE, Esq., Merchant, Leith.

JAMES ROSS, Esq., Solicitor Supreme Courts.

DAVID DOUGLAS, Esq., W.S.

DAVID J. THOMSON, Esq., Merchant, Edinburgh.

JAMES WRIGHT, Esq., Secretary to the Royal Bank of Scotland.

THOMAS SCOTT ANDERSON, Esq., W.S.

DAVID STEVENSON, Esq., Civil Engineer.

GEORGE ROSS, Jun., Esq., Advocate.

CLAUDE MUIRHEAD, Esq., Edinburgh.

JOHN WHITEFOOD MACKENZIE, Esq., W.S.

ROBERT CHAMBERS, Esq., Publisher, Edinburgh.

MANAGER.—ROBERT CHRISTIE, Esq.

SECRETARY.—WILLIAM FINLAY, Esq.

Copies of the Report and all other information may be had on application to the Head Office in Edinburgh, to any of the Country Agents, and to the London Agency, 1

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 451.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

FIREBRANDS AND MADMEN.

AN old adage warns sensible people of the danger of putting a firebrand into the hands of a madman. One might imagine the advice to be useless, did not events every now and then turn up to show that the blunder is being constantly committed by parties having some reputation for prudence. Still, in common life, one disaster generally effects a cure; and good-natured folly, taught by experience, ceases to knot the whip which is destined for its own shoulders. But legislatures are slow to learn, especially when called upon to correct ecclesiastical mistakes. It has long since appeared, by many instances, that to entrust civil power to men for religious purposes, is the most certain way to legal oppression. The history of State Churches is a continuous illustration of the propensity of ecclesiastics to abuse such power, limited only by the constraint of external circumstances—and to persecute, according to their opportunities, seems to be the instinct of all religious bodies and functionaries, whenever armed with the terrors of the law. Nevertheless, so little has the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain profited by the lesson which all history enforces, that the House of Commons is this very day engaged in debating whether or not one sect shall continue to have the power of compelling all other sects to maintain its religious edifices and worship.

Church-rates have been spoken of, and that by no less a personage than Lord John Russell, as *property* belonging to the Church of England. They are not property in any sense—far less in the sense implied by Lord John Russell's language. They are a *tax*, the legal right to levy which, in her behalf, is all that the Church can claim with the smallest semblance of reason. But even this right is not absolutely hers—she holds it only by consent from year to year. A Church-rate, granted in vestry assembled, may be loosely spoken of as property—a power, contingent on the will of others, to levy Church-rates, cannot be accurately so described. What the Legislature has to deal with in this case is not money—but a legal power, under certain circumstances, to raise money by taxation—and further, the power which they are now called upon to abolish, is a power committed, not to the Church, in the modern sense of the term, but to parishioners, whether they be in communion with the Church, or dissent from it. To couple, therefore, the abolition of this power with compensation to the established sect, as Lord John Russell hints at doing, is a gross absurdity, and only shows how easily the eyes of a clear judgment may be dazzled and darkened by a familiar and darling prejudice.

As if to give the last emphasis to the prayers of thousands of petitioners, to abolish the principle of legal compulsion in the maintenance of religious institutions, an obscure country town in Hampshire, rejoicing in the name of Ringwood, has recently furnished the public with a practical memorandum of the mischiefs which may be perpetuated, at will, under the present odious and anomalous system. Picture to yourselves a brace of honest and hard-working agricultural labourers, earning each nine

shillings a-week, and each, in these days of high prices, finding it difficult, out of this scanty sum, to provide bread for themselves, their wives, and their children! Fancy these poor men, persecuted from week to week, for a paltry Church-rate which they cannot pay—threatened with consequences it is out of their power to avert—summoned before clerical magistrates, who rudely and cruelly tell them that if they cannot afford to pay Church-rates they have no business to be house-keepers—and tortured by hearing a command given to magisterial clerks, to make out warrants of distress! Who can blame these poor men, that on their return home—"forwarned, forearmed"—one of them should dispose of his few chattels, and the other should keep his door locked day and night? And now, follow the "blue jacket," or, in other words, the policeman, as, on the State-Church's errand, he proceeds to execute the law against these unwilling malefactors! They are apprehended—led off, hand-cuffed, to the police-station, where they are kept without food from eleven o'clock a.m. of one day, to seven a.m. on the next, after which they are carried to Winchester Gaol, stripped of their garments, washed, cropped, and clothed as felons, kept in all respects under prison discipline, and released only after several days confinement, upon payment of the rate and costs by sympathising friends! Would any one have conceived such an atrocity possible in the present day? Why not? Hand round the firebrand indiscriminately, and it is sure occasionally to come into the hands of fools. If the men who perpetrated this legal outrage are worthy of indignation, how much more culpable are the statesmen who, for the sake of convenience to political party, insist upon preserving the system which arms these clerical tyrants with magisterial power?

To the above illustration we beg to add another, recorded in the columns of the *Plymouth Journal*. In Cornwall there is a certain little fishing town called Mevagissey, and in it resides one Thomas Dunn, a fisherman. This man and his wife, mindful of the charities of life, received under their roof, some time since, the husband's grandmother, nearly ninety years of age, who, early in April last, bowed down by infirmity, departed this state. Dunn and his wife followed the corpse of their relative to the grave, and the wind being strong, bleak, and easterly, all the males who appeared at the grave kept their hats on. The curate, Mr. Summerford, not knowing, we suppose, the meaning of the text, "I will have mercy, and not sacrifice," noticed that when the order was given to take hats off, Dunn only lifted his hat on the top of his head. The following dialogue must be given as we have received it:—

"The curate then said, 'If you do not take off your hats I cannot read the service.' There was a pause. The curate then said (turning to the undertaker), 'Mr. Roberts, I mean that gentleman behind you.' Thomas Dunn then said, 'If you mean me, Sir, I cannot take off my hat; I am unwell.' The curate replied, 'I cannot read the service if you do not take off your hat.' Thomas Dunn's wife then spoke, and said, 'He is delicate, Sir; he cannot take off his hat.' The curate said, 'I am delicate, and I have taken off my hat; if he could not take off his hat he should not have come here; he had better leave; I cannot proceed with the service.' Thomas Dunn then said, 'I am not told anywhere in the Bible to take off my hat, nor shall I do it to please man.' The curate then said, 'It is not to please man, it is to please God.' Thomas Dunn replied, 'It is to please you, Sir; I shall not do it.' The curate then said, 'The Apostle St. Paul said, 'No man could pray with his hat on.' Thomas Dunn replied, 'I can pray as well with my hat on as with it off.'"

Well, theologically, the Mevagissey fisherman seems to have had the best judgment of the two. But, mark the result! The curate informed his vicar, the vicar his bishop, and Dunn receives a citation to appear before the Consistorial Court at Exeter, "to answer for brawling in the churchyard of Mevagissey," on the day of his poor grandmother's funeral. The prosecutors seem to have been subsequently ashamed of their proceedings, inasmuch as they offered to forego proceedings, in case Dunn would consent to sign a confession of his fault, and pay the costs incurred. This, like an outraged but not spiritless man, he refused

to do, and has determined rather to meet his doom, which will probably be imprisonment *sine die*, until his "soul's health" is established, and submission to his Ordinary is duly made.

To reason with clergymen capable of such acts is manifestly futile. Possibly, they are as sincere as fanatics usually are. The misfortune is theirs—the fault is the law's. We ought not to arm bigots with the power of inflicting mischief. Let the ecclesiastical courts hurl, if they will, their mimic thunderbolts of excommunication, and exercise, in what spirit they please, their high ghostly prerogatives. But, in pity's name, keep the sword of the magistrate out of the hands of the clergy. A false notion of their power evermore prompts them to wield it—and whilst they wound others they usually cut themselves. Disarm the madmen! Pluck from their hands the firebrand which they know not how to use except for evil! This is the moral preached to us by such events as those we have briefly narrated—and, unless we heed it, and act on it, we have no right to express astonishment that such and such acts of intolerance can be found to disgrace our country's annals in this the middle of the nineteenth century.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

It was announced in our last number that a public meeting would be held in the City this evening, to petition Parliament to abolish religious tests at the Universities, but as several of the members of the House of Commons, whose presence was desirable, were found to be engaged, a postponement was thought desirable. The altered position of the Bill will now, we presume, lead to the abandonment of the meeting, as it will be seen that the House of Commons has quickened its pace, and got through all the clauses of the Bill. As it was felt to be most important that the proposal to admit Dissenters to the Universities should be debated under favourable circumstances, representations were made to the Government, which induced them readily to agree that the discussion should take place on the bringing up of the report to-morrow (Thursday). Those who are familiar with the forms of the House will be aware, that this is a very advantageous arrangement, as both the debate and the division will be likely to be more important than if they were to take place in committee. It is not a little singular, and illustrative of the ecclesiastical character of the present times, that the two questions of the session in which Dissenters are most deeply interested—Church-rates and University tests—should be debated, and, perhaps, disposed of, on two successive days.

THE IMPRISONED RINGWOOD LABOURERS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—The letter which appeared in your journal of the 7th inst., has brought me two classes of communications, the one expressing incredulity: the other more than confirming the accuracy of the published statement.

Thus, while a gentleman on the Stock Exchange tells me that he is "attacked from several quarters on account of the 'overdone' and 'extravagant'" character of the narrative, and that "both Churchmen and Dissenters say that the treatment described is too atrocious to be, in this land, possible;" one who writes from the spot thus addresses me—

"Your too truthful and heart-stirring letter no one would doubt if they lived in the vicinity in which such atrocious deeds were enacted, and would take the trouble to inquire into the circumstances of the case. It is true that only two men were incarcerated, but instances are to be found, in which, when a sufficiency of food was not to be obtained but by trust, to avoid a summons the money has been borrowed to pay the Church-rate, and with what prospect of repayment those best can tell, and painfully feel, who have only 9s. a-week, when their bread bill alone consumes more than their earnings."

It will not excite surprise that the families of the two imprisoned men had to be maintained at the expense of the parish, or by private charity; but surprise, and something more, will be awakened when it is known that one of the committing magistrates was a clergyman of the "Poor Man's Church," and that his reply to the plea of poverty was:—"If you cannot afford to pay Church Rates you ought not to live in a house!"

I am reluctant to occupy more of your space, but cannot forbear appending a copy of a document, which will be read with interest, as furnishing some additional facts, and showing on what information the statement already published, rests. I venture to give it publicity without waiting for the permission of Messrs. Porter and Harris, whose pains-taking in this matter entitles them to the public thanks.

Yours truly,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS,

2, Serjeants-inn, Fleet-street, June 20.

Questions submitted by the Rev. George Harris (Independent Minister) and Rev. John Porter (Unitarian Minister) to Henry Larkham and Isaac Early.

What was the amount of your church-rate? *Larkham*: One shilling and tenpence halfpenny. *Early*: One shilling and ninepence.

Who applied for it? *Both*: Mr. Dyett, Churchwarden.

What was your answer? *Larkham*: I cannot pay it. *Early*: I'll pay it as soon as I get it.

Did he apply for it more than once? *Both*: Yes; at least three times.

What was your reply the last time? *Larkham*: I have not a sixpence in the world, when the churchwarden said, "Then I'll send one of the blue jacket men with a piece of paper." *Early*: I had it not; I could not get food for my children—to which Mr. Dyett replied—"I must summon you."

Did he offer to take it by small instalments? *Both*: No.

Were you summoned to appear before the magistrates? *Both*: Yes.

What did the magistrates say to you? *Larkham*: They asked me why I refused to pay the church-rates. *Early*: Why I did not pay them.

What was your answer? *Larkham*: I could not pay it—I had it not to pay—I have a job to get victuals for my children. *Early*: I could not pay it.

Did the magistrates give any directions as to a distress warrant? *Larkham*: Yes. "If you don't pay," said they, "we shall take your things, and if they are not enough to pay we give you two calendar months in prison." "MAKE OUT A DISTRESS!" ordered Mr. Mills. *Early*: Yes. "We shall take your things; and if you have no goods then we shall give you two calendar months."

Who are the magistrates? *Both*: Mr. Mills and Mr. Young.

Did any persons come to your house to take an account of your furniture? *Both*: Yes. Mr. Dyett and a policeman. *Early*: My door was locked.

Did they take your goods? *Both*: No.

Had you removed any of your goods? *Both*: Yes, the best of them. *Early*: I also kept my door locked against Mr. Dyett.

What was the next thing that was done? *Both*: I never heard anything more till they came to take me into custody. (Larkham was in his garden. Early was hoeing potatoes for his master.)

When they came to you what did they say? *Larkham*: "Now, what about this money?" I said, "I haven't got it."—"Then you must go with me." *Early*: "I am after you."

What did the rate and expenses amount to when you were taken into custody? *Larkham*: The policeman said eighteen shillings and sixpence. *Early*: I did not learn.

Were you and Early hand-cuffed together by the police? *Both*: Yes.

Where did they take you to? *Both*: To the police-station. It was then about eleven o'clock, A.M.

How long were you confined in the station? *Both*: From eleven, April 24th, till the next morning at seven.

Were any provisions allowed you by the police at the station? *Both*: Nothing till seven o'clock the next morning.

Were your friends permitted to see you? *Both*: Yes.

When committed to Winchester gaol, into what kind of a place were you put? *Both*: In separate cells, about nine feet by five, where we were constantly confined, with the exception of about one hour each day, for exercise in the open air.

What kind of food had you? *Both*: A penny loaf and skilly for breakfast and supper; dinner, various.

What had you to pay before you were liberated from prison? *Larkham*: Twelve shillings and tenpence halfpenny. *Early*: Twelve shillings and ninepence.

What is your employment? *Both*: A labourer.

What do you earn weekly? *Larkham*: About nine shillings. *Early*: Nine shillings and sixpence.

What family have you? *Larkham*: A wife and three children. *Early*: A wife and two children.

How many are dependent on you? *Larkham*: One boy has two shillings per week, the others are entirely dependent on me. *Early*: A wife and three children.

Did you at last pay the rate and expenses or did others raise the money? *Both*: It was paid by subscription.

Did they change your dress when you were committed to prison? *Both*: Yes; everything. (They had to submit to other prison regulations.)

Did they do anything else to your persons? Yes. When coming out of our cell they obliged us to put on a cap with a large peak coming down to the mouth with holes for the eyes.—The answer of both.

How was your health? *Larkham*: I was very poorly all the time I was there. *Early*: I was ill four days.

How long were you in prison? *Larkham*: Eight days. *Early*: Three weeks.

Were you permitted to see letters from your friends? *Both*: No.

CLOSING PUBLIC HOUSES ON SUNDAY.

The most cursory reader of the Parliamentary reports in the daily papers, can scarcely have failed to notice the frequent record of petitions presented to the Houses of Commons in favour of prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors on the Sabbath. Up to the present time, more than 1,000 petitions, with upwards of 165,000 signatures, have been laid on the table of the House, and their presentation has been pretty evenly distributed over the whole session. There is no doubt that this movement has been participated in by many friends of temperance who object to the total abstinence principle, and that it is obtaining a position of considerable prominence. Mr. Adderley obtained a select committee to take evidence on the subject, but its labours are not completed.

Meanwhile, out-door agitation is taking a more prominent shape. The important borough of Leeds has set the example. To test the strength of public feeling pro and con a town's meeting, called by the mayor, on the requisition of 800 persons, was held on Monday night week, in the Cloth-hall yard. It had been preceded by party placards, equalling in rancour and personality the fiercest election squibs, and on the day of meeting the innkeepers drummed up their supporters by several bands of music. The result was, the largest meeting that has ever been held in Leeds since the great assemblage in favour of Catholic emancipation. The speakers in favour of restricting the sale of ale and spirits to week-days were the Rev. Wm. Sinclair, incumbent of St. George's; the Rev. M. De Renzy, chaplain to the borough gaol; and Mr. Joseph Barker. In opposition the speakers were Mr. Spiritt (late an innkeeper); Mr. Swale, an innkeeper; and a working man. The mayor presided, but such was the pressure and excitement that no order admitting an uninterrupted hearing could at any period be preserved. The vote of the meeting was also taken amidst some confusion, and, after some difficulty, was declared to be in favour of Sunday closing. Such was the opinion of the mayor, but the innkeepers declare the majority was on their side, and others hold the result to be doubtful. The *Leeds Mercury* says that the division was a close one, many persons voting for the amendment by mistake. A subsequent resolution for petitioning Parliament was carried almost unanimously amidst vociferous cheering. Speaking of this great gathering, supposed to have numbered some 16,000 persons, our contemporary, who is heartily favourable to closing public-houses on Sundays, says:—

It would be difficult to overrate the importance of this solemn verdict of one of the principal boroughs in the kingdom in behalf of a measure so conducive to the interests of morality and religion. But perhaps the most interesting feature of the case is, that the meeting originated with the working-men themselves, and that that class must necessarily have formed the bulk of those who carried the vote. They saw the sad demoralisation which Sunday drinking produces amongst old and young—the health, the happiness, the families, and the souls it is destroying—the deep dishonour which it brings on the day of sacred rest; and they rushed to the rescue of their fellow men. They got up a requisition, signed by no less than eight hundred persons of all classes. They would listen to nothing else than the most open appeal to the whole population, by an out-of-doors meeting in the Cloth-hall yard, duly called and duly presided over by our chief magistrate. And the result has amply rewarded their faith and their works. In spite of a desperate opposition from the publicans, who drew together all the Sunday drinkers in the town to clamour down the friends of the movement, the cause of temperance and religion triumphed; and a petition, bearing the signature of the mayor and the seal of the borough, has been presented, beseeching Parliament to put an end to the scandalous anomaly of leaving the drinking-houses open when all other places of business are shut.

Those who got up the agitation and opposition on the part of the publicans terribly overshot their mark. Their indecent violence, and the degraded persons whom they gathered on the occasion, must have excited the indignation of every virtuous person. If the publicans outrage the general feeling by their conduct, they must beware lest a more serious infliction should come upon them than the loss of the ill-gotten gains of Sunday. The public eye is upon them; the eye of Parliament is watching them; and they may depend upon it they cannot with impunity offend the general sense of propriety and decency. We know there are men of respectability belonging to that class; and their wisdom will be decidedly to oppose themselves to proceedings like those of Monday last.

A select committee of the House of Commons is now sitting, of which the Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers is chairman, to inquire into the expediency of closing public-houses on Sunday; and we understand that the evidence proves an astonishing amount of demoralization to be produced by Sunday drinking. We hope the public opinion will be forthwith expressed by numerous petitions to Parliament in favour of the closing of drinking places on the Lord's-day.

It appears that the clergy of Leeds are taking up this question very cordially. At the late visitation of the archdeacon, a petition to Parliament, praying for the closing of public-houses and beer-shops on Sunday, except to lodgers and *bond-fide* travellers, was adopted, and received 57 signatures. They pray for the adoption of the scheme, on the ground that the partial restrictions placed upon the opening of public-houses and beer-shops on the Lord's-day of late years, have been invariably followed by a striking diminution in the number of committals for offences of all kinds. The question has also been before various Boards of Guardians throughout the country, who have in many instances, adopted petitions in its favour. The Sheffield petition was signed by the Mayor, Master Cutler, the Town Regent, most of the clergy, ministers, magistrates, and aldermen of the borough, to-

gether with seven thousand grown-up men. Mr. E. B. Denison, M.P. for the West Riding, has promised his cordial support to its prayer. At one Board of Guardians the petition was rejected by 6 to 4, one of the speakers denouncing the proposal on the ground, that while a wealthy man might have all he wished in his own house, it was unreasonable to restrain poor persons from purchasing necessary drink on a Sunday.

With such a movement on foot, the working of Mr. Forbes Mackenzie's Act, by which public-houses and whiskey shops are closed on Sundays, will be watched with especial interest. At present, so far as we can ascertain, the practical result has been favourable. We take a few extracts from the *Glasgow Commonwealth*, a decided supporter of the temperance movement, and other journals which seem to favour this conclusion:—

The Edinburgh police state that the barrow, hitherto so frequently in use for the "drunk and disorderlies," has not, on a single Sabbath evening since the new act came into force, been once called into requisition.

At Dundee, the spirit-dealers, to the number of fully a hundred and fifty, met on Tuesday evening; though they were anxious to obtain, if not a repeal at least a considerable modification of the statute, they were also unanimous in their condemnation of the Sabbath traffic in intoxicating drink.

In the county of Fife the table of crime for the month in which the act has been in force is exceedingly small. Not one single breach of the peace or assault has been committed on the last two Sabbaths, nor have all the constables in the shire seen one drunk man on these two days.

The *Arbroath Guide* says that, with respect to the action of the new Public Houses Act in that town, nothing further need be stated than the fact, that "from Saturday night last up to the present time, not one individual has been taken to the police-office for drunkenness." "When," asks the *Guide*, "when did such a state of sobriety previously exist in Arbroath?"

In the Scottish metropolis, the morning dram-drinkers are all crossing over to the refreshment rooms. This wholesome movement is likewise extending to Glasgow. One of our citizens, who keeps a temperance coffee-room (and we doubt not he will have many successors), advertises a morning cup of coffee for workmen proceeding to their labour, at half the price of a morning dram. The dram-shops being now closed till seven o'clock, work-people, who formerly frequented them, may be prevailed upon to test the superior comfort of a penny cup of coffee. A beginning is all that we require to convince the working-people that they can live in a land of closed public-houses.

The *Dundee Advertiser* refrained from speaking of the working of the new act until two or three Sabbaths should have furnished sufficient data on which to found a deliverance. In the following sentence we have the result:—"Since that law came into operation, there has been a decided diminution in the number of committals at the police-offices throughout the country generally; and we are enabled to state a fact in connexion with the police establishment of this town, which, we believe, is quite unprecedented in its history for many years, viz., that from half-past four o'clock on Monday afternoon, not a single person was taken into custody by the police."

Mr. Forbes Mackenzie's Act (says the *Scottish Guardian*) is commending itself more and more to the good wishes of all classes of the community, with the exception of the publicans and their patrons. It will be seen, by reference to the report of the Glasgow Police Committee's proceedings on Monday, that the beneficial operation of the bill is vouched for most emphatically by Bailie Harvey and by Mr. Smart, and the same gratifying testimony is transmitted from almost every part of the country. Indeed, the effects of the act have greatly exceeded the most sanguine expectations of its friends, both by the surprising degree of reformation it has accomplished, and the rapidity with which this reformation has been brought about.—*Scottish Guardian*.

Last week, in reply to a question of one of the bailies, the town's officer stated that since the bill had come into operation, there was far less drunkenness to be seen on the streets at night, and on the Sabbath-day matters had considerably improved. In Broad-street, and the wynds and closes adjoining, there was now scarcely a drunk person to be seen on Sundays, while previously they were never free from some small or other. On the whole, they considered that matters were greatly improved.—*Stirling Observer*.

In Falkirk, as well as in the chief Scottish towns, the Sabbath-days that have elapsed since the Bill came into force, have been much more quiet and orderly than those which preceded the practical inauguration of its provisions affecting the traffic on the Lord's-day.—*Falkirk Herald*.

That the operation of this act in the county of Fife is as beneficial as in Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, &c., appears from the following statement of Mr. Adamson, Superintendent of Police:—"The superintendent begs to report, that his table of crime for this month is exceedingly small, which he attributes, in a great measure, to the New Police Act. The reports from the different constables throughout the county as to the good effects of the act on Sundays are most satisfactory, not a single breach of peace or an insult having been committed during the last two Sundays, nor one drunken person seen by the constables during these two days."—*Fife-shire Journal*.

THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION SOCIETY.

The committee of this society are, we understand, prosecuting their plans to reorganize its friends and to augment its annual income, by arranging for private meetings, to explain the changes recently made in its constitution, the society's present proceedings, and the operations which the committee still have in view. Last month Mr. Morley paid a preliminary visit to Bradford, where the annual subscription list for the next three years will be headed by the names of Titus Salt, Esq., for £50, Messrs. Forbes and Milligan £50, Harrop and Craven £30, B. Harrison, Esq., £20. Dr. Foster, in company with the Rev. H. H. Dobney, has just met the Dissenters of Colchester, who have made a fresh start in connection with the society, and commenced a good subscription

list. On the day following a *seance* was held at Ipswich—the parties being invited by circular—when Mr. James Bell, M.P., and Mr. Dobney represented the Committee. Mr. Dilwyn Sims, of the firm of Ransome and May, presided, and several subscriptions of £5 being promised, the amount sent from Ipswich will be trebled. Last week the Secretary attended a private meeting at Worcester, where the local committee was reorganised, and the present subscribers agreed to double their subscriptions. Similar gatherings are to take place at Gloucester, Bath, and Frome, this month, and in July a deputation will visit South Wales. At all the meetings which have been held prominence has been given to the subject of Church-rates and University Tests; and the great importance of having in existence a machinery for preparing petitions, and influencing members in respect to the ecclesiastical topics which will now be systematically pressed upon Parliament, has been strongly urged. The attention which the Executive have this session given to Parliamentary business has, we believe, delayed their applications for pecuniary support in many quarters, and we therefore suggest to our readers that spontaneous offers of that support will be an appropriate recognition of the services which it is felt the society is rendering to the cause of religious liberty.

ABOLITION OF CHURCH-RATES AND UNIVERSITY TESTS.

A public meeting, convened by the Islington Committee of the Liberation of Religion Society, was held on the evening of Friday last at Baker's Rooms, Islington; Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., M.P., being in the chair. Mr. J. Templeton, the local secretary, read an able report of the proceedings of the committee during the past year, from which it appeared that the local association was in a flourishing condition.

The Rev. J. BLACKBURN moved the adoption of the report, and the appointment of the committee for the ensuing year. He remembered very well when the question of Church-rates was formerly agitated. It was in 1838, after the Reform Bill had been carried. There could not be a doubt but that bill had been carried by the Nonconformists, who thought they had some claim on Lord Grey's Government; and the Whigs, then as now, promised to do a good deal. But nothing great was ever carried through in a hurry, much time being required for rubbing great principles into the mind of the people at large. In this twenty years not only had many old arguments employed by churchmen been abandoned, but the vitality of Voluntarism had been evinced in the disruption of the Free Church, in Scotland, and the erection by the voluntary efforts of the Church of England of 2,000 churches; thus voluntary assessing itself to the amount of five millions in money. Referring to the Universities, he said that Oxford need not be afraid of admitting Dissenters, for the brightest era in the annals of Oxford was the time when she had had Nonconformists as her chancellors. Under the rule of the Independents, she shone as she never did before or since. He took the ground of the right of every Englishman, whether Dissenter or Churchman, to admittance into that University. He might not choose to send a son there, but he must have the liberty of choice. (Cheers.)

Mr. DENON, in seconding the motion, strenuously urged the necessity for personal exertion.

Dr. FOSTER moved a resolution in favour of abolishing University Tests. They did not plead in "forma pauperis" in this matter, for Nonconformists had the best reason to be proud of their own colleges, compared with Oxford. As many of the Nonconformist Alumni took the highest honours in the country as Churchmen. They demanded admittance into Oxford because of the prestige attaching to that University. It was the direct road to honour in this country, and its portals having been unjustly closed against them, they demanded as a right that all men should be admitted without reference to their religious opinion. They were not moved by any sectarian feeling. It was their opponents who were the sectarians. Great progress had been made of late; six months ago, Churchmen thought Nonconformists were indifferent in the matter. There were very few members of the House of Commons who, when spoken to privately, defended the injustice of the present exclusion. In fact he believed there would be found to be a majority in favour of their demand; for members were prone to listen to their constituents when their constituents were in earnest. If the clauses were carried they would go to the Lords, where they would probably be altered, in so far as admission to degrees and fellowships was concerned; and the Government must choose betwixt the Lords and the people. After referring to the hard work which had been done and was yet before them, and passing a high eulogium on the exertions of Mr. Carvell Williams, the secretary of the parent society, and inculcating perseverance, Dr. Foster sat down amidst loud applause.

Mr. MIALI said that when the Oxford Reform Bill was introduced it contained some good points, but it proposed too much for its foes, and too little for its friends, and the consequence was a miserable sham. Unless the Test clauses were added it would not be worth debating. Admitting that if Dissenters were admitted the effect would be prejudicial to their young men, they must in all battles make up their minds to lose some soldiers—the weakest generally going first. These Universities were the seed-plots of bigotry, and if they could kill the evil at its source they would have gone a great way towards accomplishing what they wanted. There must be no surrender of what was just and right at the shrine of expediency. Our admission, said the speaker, will increase friendly intercourse between Churchmen and Dissenters, and will assist to rub off prejudices on both sides, and to generate kindly feelings. We shall understand each

other better, so that in a few years, when we come to fight the battle of Establishments, which we must inevitably do, we shall comprehend each other's motives better than we do now, and instead of using poisoned lances, we shall, with no abatement of zeal, but using only fair and open weapons, encounter each other on the broad ground of the innate truth of great principles. When we are up to the mark, depend upon it the House of Commons will not dare to trifle with us. We must take high ground, for if we do not we can expect and shall get nothing. Lord John may not be prepared to move on; but what do the Dissenters care for Lord John Russell. They can do very well without him, but he cannot do without them. Let him know our power, and if he will not go on, why then, sweep him from our path. Mr. Miall concluded by pointing out the evils arising from the mixing up of the affairs of Christ's Kingdom with politics and the earth-born pursuits of worldly men.

Rev. T. LESSEY moved a resolution adopting a petition in favour of Sir William Clay's Church-rate Abolition Bill. He looked at the matter chiefly as a religious one, wishing to free religion from a system of robbery and wrong. He believed that he was benefiting the Church by endeavouring to take away from her the power of committing evil. It was to secure a lasting peace that they had entered on this war, and until their righteous demands were complied with there could be no abiding tranquillity.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS, in seconding the resolution, stated the facts connected with the imprisonment of two labourers of Ringwood for non-payment of a Church-rate. He had been informed that several others had escaped a similar fate only by borrowing money to meet the demands of the "poor man's Church;" and so callous were some of the Churchmen of Ringwood, that, instead of being ashamed at such an occurrence, they insisted that people who were unable to pay Church-rates had no business to live in houses!

Mr. ELR, in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, said, that at Mevagissey, in Cornwall, an old man whose wife had died attended her funeral. He was in bad health. The clergyman ordered him to take off his hat during the reading of the service; but the old man raised it, and, because of the state of his health, begged permission to put it on. This was refused him. The clergyman declined to go on with the service, and next day proceedings were commenced against the old man for brawling in the churchyard, and he was carried to gaol, where he then was. (Sensation.)

The vote of thanks having been seconded and acknowledged, the meeting was dissolved.

A BISHOP WANTED.—Newcastle-upon-Tyne, through Sir John Fife and its town council, have urged upon the Home-office the establishment of a separate bishopric of Northumberland, to include that county and the town of Newcastle, and having its seat in the latter, and to be supported by a portion of the present large revenue of the see of Durham.

ABOLITION OF CHURCH-RATES.—On Wednesday, at a meeting of the representative vestry of St. Pancras, J. Plather, Esq., churchwarden, in the chair, the following notice of motion was given by Mr. Eckett:—"That petitions in support of the bill now in Parliament for the abolition of Church-rates, be prepared for the signatures of the churchwardens and vestrymen of this parish." This notice will be forwarded to the 121 vestrymen, and a large attendance is anticipated when it comes on for discussion to-day.

RETURN OF A SECEDEE.—The following official notice has been issued:—"The Rev. Thomas Tenison Cuffe, M.A., late of Kennington, who some time back seceded from the Church and joined the Countess of Huntingdon's connexion, has seen the impropriety of such a step, and having expressed his deep regret to the Bishop of London, and his firm attachment to the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England, his lordship has, with the approval of the Bishop of Winchester, admitted Mr. Cuffe to officiate in his diocese."

THE MILTON HALL AND CLUB.—We have now the satisfaction to announce, that the committee of the Milton Hall and Club have completed their preliminary arrangements; and that, so soon as the original plans have undergone the modifications rendered necessary by the subsequent additional purchases, the works will proceed forthwith. There is every reason to expect that the Club will be ready for opening before Christmas; but the Hall will not be completed till a later period. We believe, however, that there is a fair prospect of the entire plan being carried out in time for the May Meetings of 1855.—*Patriot*.

CONSECRATED GRAVE-YARDS.—A gentleman, visiting a burial-ground, asked the grave-digger which part was consecrated? On being informed, he further inquired how deep he thought the consecration went? he replied about sixteen feet, he thought. He was then asked if he never went down deeper than that? "Oh, yes!" was the reply, "sometimes as low as twenty-four feet." "So then you go right through the consecration?" "Yes," said the man; "I suppose we do." Query, has this very grave question ever been the subject of consideration by a bench of bishops, or by those who value consecration?—*From a Correspondent*.

ARCHDEACON WILBERFORCE held a visitation at Beverley on Wednesday. A protest against the doctrine contained in his book "On the Holy Eucharist," signed by the great majority of the clergy of Hull, was presented to him. He delivered a charge, chiefly on the subject of the sacrament of the Lord's-supper, defending the doctrine of the real presence of Christ in the elements. He said it would be useless for any one to institute a suit to try the question of the doctrine of the Church of England upon the matter in the Ecclesiastical Court, because that court, having held

baptismal regeneration to be an open question, could not possibly prevent a clergyman from affirming the doctrine of the real presence.

THE SO-CALLED NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.—The *Times* remarks that the Universities are virtually inaccessible to all except a favoured class. They are confined to those whose friends can spend upon their education, from first to last, some £1,200 or £1,500. "They no more cheapen and extend education than if they had no endowments whatever. Should that state of things continue, and should the bill now in Parliament do no more good than keep things as they are in that respect, then we feel tolerably confident that its reign will be short, and that reform will soon be thrust on the Universities and Colleges with a stronger hand than that which has shown itself in the composition and conduct of the bill now before Parliament."

THE CONTEST FOR CHURCHWARDEN AT KNIGHTSBRIDGE.—The new election for a churchwarden of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, took place on Wednesday and Thursday. On the former day a large number of conspicuous persons—including Lord John Russell, Earl Fitzwilliam, Earl Ducie, Lord Enfield, Lord Bernard, Lord Combermere, Mr. J. A. Smith, Mr. H. Herbert, Mr. G. Berkeley, Colonel Knox, and other members of Parliament—were present at the nomination. The candidates were Mr. Westerton and Mr. Davidson, and the struggle excited unusual interest. From the outset, however, there was no doubt who would head the poll—Mr. Westerton leading and keeping the lead by large majorities. At the close, the numbers were—Westerton 651, Davidson 328; a majority of nearly two to one.

PROTESTANT CONFERENCE.—A conference under the above title was held at the National Club, Whitehall Gardens, on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th of May, consisting of representatives from the various Protestant societies of England and Scotland. Sir Brook W. Brydges presided. A petition to Parliament was adopted, regretting the delay in the production of the report on the practical working of Maynooth College, which would probably prevent legislative action this session, and praying "that no further grant may be made in the present session, on any plea whatever, towards supporting the buildings of the establishment of the said Roman Catholic College of Maynooth." On the third day, a resolution was adopted urging upon Protestant societies the desirableness of bringing their influence to bear upon existing members of Parliament, "and in the event of a new election, of voting only for such candidates as shall be prepared to withdraw all public grants of money for the purpose of educating or paying the Romish priesthood, or in any way supporting the Romish priesthood within the British dominions; and as shall also be prepared, at least, to vote for the opening of all conventual institutions to authorised inspection." Another resolution urged the necessity of organised Protestant action; and a third appointed a committee to summon, before the meeting of Parliament next year, a conference of representatives of Protestant societies and their branches, and religious bodies, for the furtherance of the Protestant cause.

THE CHURCHES REMOVAL BILL.—At a meeting of the Fellows of Eton College—the Rev. William Goode in the chair—it was moved by Dr. Croly and seconded by Dr. Vivian, that a petition should be presented to the House of Commons in opposition to Lord Harrowby's bill for the removal of the City churches. Upon this Dr. McCaul moved and the Rev. Mr. Short seconded an amendment, that the meeting approved of the principle of the bill: but, after much discussion, this was negatived by seventeen to fourteen. Dr. Russell then moved the previous question: this obstruction was disposed of by eighteen to fifteen, and the original resolution was carried. In reference to this bill a correspondent writes as follows; though by inserting his remarks we do not intend to endorse them:—

I believe there are persons enough in the City and its immediate suburbs to fill all the present churches with worshippers, who would be found, only let them have ministers of their own choice and free sittings. Give the people the choice of their ministers, and a race of Whitfields and Wesleys will arise, and thousands will crowd into the churches from Spitalfields, Wapping, and places adjoining, who now never enter a place of worship. Let the experiment be made before the churches are removed; and, in the name of Justice, why should not a portion of them, if not wanted for Churchmen, be appropriated to Dissenters? Is it not the duty of the State to provide accommodation for all classes if it provide for any one? Is the soul of a Dissenter of less value in the sight of God than the soul of a Churchman? Is it just to tax the nation for the accommodation of one class only, and that a minority of the people. Devout worshippers in country parishes walk miles to their churches through bad roads, is it to be believed that decent persons will not go equal distances over the pavement of London less exposed to bad weather?

THE PUSEYITES AND ST. BARNABAS, PIMLICO.—The anniversary festival of the dedication of this church was celebrated on Monday week. In the morning, early sacrament was administered. This was followed by early prayers, and at eleven there were the usual choral service and prayers for St. Barnabas' Day. The Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, the rector of St. Paul's, preached the sermon. In the afternoon about 800 of the poorer members of the congregation were entertained as usual in the infants' and girls' school-rooms, adjacent to St. Barnabas' Church. The Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell presided, and there were many persons of rank and fashion present. The chairman referred to what had been done in this place of worship without pew rents, and locks, and doors; and stated that Mr. Bennett was pursuing a similar successful course at Frome. The ceremony of admitting a boy to the choir and foundation of St. Barnabas was next performed. The chairman, in explaining the objects of this institution, said, that twelve orphan children, who

voluntarily offered themselves, were received from all parts of England upon the foundation. They were clothed and educated in the best possible manner, and he trusted that God would bless them, and that what they learned in this institution of the true principles of the Bible, would be maintained by them through good report and through evil report. Colonel Fulke Greville, M.P., in proposing the health of Mr. Liddell, referred to the bigoted opposition they encountered. Yet the church was supported by the voluntary contributions of those who attended it, and he thought that, upon every principle of justice and toleration, they had a right to do what they pleased. (Cheers.) He understood that a petition was to be presented to the House of Commons that night against the vicar of Frome, because, forsooth, he recommended his parishioners to be married in their parish church. (Laughter.) There was undoubtedly an Act of Parliament which legalised marriages performed before a registrar, but Acts of Parliament did not add to or make the law of God, and he believed that Mr. Bennett was only doing his duty as a faithful minister. (Hear, hear.) He only mentioned this to show the bigotry and intolerance of the times. The principle of religious liberty was what they were contending for. The Rev. Mr. Liddell, in returning thanks, said:—

As regards this establishment, we do not come forward and exact contributions from those who do not like to give them, particularly in this church. It is entirely a free church. There are no pew-rents, no Church-rates, no tithes, and no contributions, but those which proceed from the hearts of the people. It maintains its own curates, and, I glory in telling it, it maintains its own choir. In addition to this, these revenues are unceasingly employed in many other good works. Now, my friends, are we to be blamed for these good works? I have also heard a good deal of late about the misappropriation of the funds of the offertory. Who, however, are the people who make these complaints? Are they the people who give to the offertory? No, not one of them. In both our churches, every one who has given is perfectly contented with the manner in which these funds are applied. I have heard, indeed, of people being liberal with other folks' property, but this is an instance of being illiberal with other folks' property (hear, hear); and I can only say, that so long as the congregation is satisfied with the disposal of the offertory collection, it will continue to be disposed of in the present way. (Cheers.) The fact that there were £80 in the plate this morning is no bad proof of the satisfaction of the congregation. (Cheers.) It is no bad proof of their inclination when they have subscribed such a sum towards the expenses of this feast for our poorer brethren, and for the children of the schools. (Hear, hear.) So much, then, with respect to the misappropriation of the offertory funds. There is another charge brought against us, and a very dreadful one it is. We are all charged with Popery. (Laughter.) Why, my friends, if there is one thing more than another which can stem the encroachments of Popery, it is the establishment of such churches as this of St. Barnabas (hear, hear), where the spirit of the Church of England is brought to light (hear, hear)—where we try to the best of our power to feel with the poor of our people, to sympathise with them in sorrow, and to rejoice with them in prosperity. (Hear.) This is the way, I say, to stem the encroachments of Popery.

Religious Intelligence.

MR. J. G. ROBERTS, of Airedale College, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become minister of the Independent church at Horncastle, Lincolnshire.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.—The Rev. George S. Ingram, late of Glasgow, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the Congregational church here, and enters immediately on his pastoral duties.

MR. JOHN STOKES, of Odiham, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church and congregation assembling at Titchfield, Hants, to become their pastor; and intends commencing his labours there in the latter part of July.

THE REV. THOMAS SOWTER, of Saxmundham, having accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the Congregational church worshipping in Trinity Chapel, Sudbury, Suffolk, will enter on his labours on the second Sabbath of July.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—A new Congregational church has been formed in this locality under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. H. Hughes. The Revs. Alexander Hannah (Dundee), Andrew Reid (Newcastle), and A. Howson (Hartlepool), together with the deacons and several members of the church at the latter place, were present on the interesting occasion.

APPLETON WISKE, YORKSHIRE.—On Tuesday, June 13th, the Rev. J. Gankrager (formerly of Rotherham College) was ordained as pastor of the Independent church in this place. The Rev. T. Davison, of Stockton, introduced the service by reading the Scriptures and prayer. The Rev. H. P. Bowen, of Middlesbrough, delivered the introductory lecture, and proposed a number of questions to the minister, which were satisfactorily answered. The Rev. R. Jones, of Staindrop, offered the ordination prayer. The charge to the minister and the church was delivered by the Rev. J. C. Potter, of Whitby. Messrs. Galt, of Darlington, and Yeo, of Northallerton, took part in the services.

DEAL.—JUBILEE MEETING.—On Tuesday, 13th inst., a public tea-meeting was held in the school-room connected with the Congregational Chapel, to commemorate the opening of the present place of worship, and to celebrate the completion of its fiftieth year. The Rev. J. Knight, of Deal, having opened the meeting by prayer, the Rev. R. H. Craig, the pastor, who presided, enforced, in his opening remarks, the principles of Nonconformity. Mr. Brown (one of the deacons) read an interesting historical paper, containing many striking facts, from which it appeared that a church, based on primitive and apostolic principles, was con-

stituted in the year 1681, and has continued ever since in strength and vigour. Suitable addresses were delivered by the Revs. H. Creswell, of Canterbury; Dr. Hillier, of Sandwich; D. Pledge, of St. Peters; and T. Waller, of Wingham. The attendance was large, and the interest awakened deep. Mr. Steed (senior deacon) concluded the meeting with prayer. The pastor preached a sermon, improving the interesting occasion, on Sabbath evening, 11th inst., to a large and attentive congregation.

SYDENHAM.—The public recognition of the Rev. T. C. Hine (late of Plymouth), as the pastor of the church and congregation assembling at Park Chapel, took place on Tuesday evening, the 13th inst. The Rev. George Verrall, of Bromley, commenced the service by reading the Scriptures and offering prayer. The Rev. Josiah Viney delivered the introductory discourse and asked the usual questions, which were replied to by Mr. Easton on behalf of the church, who stated the circumstances which had led to the settlement of the present pastor, and by Mr. Hine, who, after thirty years' ministerial experience, expressed his ardent attachment to the great principles of the Gospel. The Rev. George Clayton delivered an impressive charge to the minister. The Rev. John Burnet addressed the church and congregation. The Revs. Thomas Davies, W. Lucy, and J. Pulling, also took part in the service.

THE DEPUTATION TO ST. PETERSBURG.—At the annual meeting of the Midland Baptist Association, comprising about thirty churches and upwards of four thousand members, assembled in New Hall-street, Birmingham, June 7th and 8th, the following resolution was proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. Mills, of Kidderminster, and passed unanimously:—

That this Association embraces the present opportunity of expressing its admiration of the efforts of Joseph Sturge, Esq., of Birmingham, J. Pease, Esq., of Darlington, and Robert Charlton, Esq., of Bristol, to bring the principles of the Gospel to bear upon the Emperor of Russia, in order, if possible, to avert the terrible evil of war. And while tendering to these gentlemen respectful sympathy, this Association deeply regrets that, in a professedly Christian country, such Christian and philanthropic efforts should in any quarter be treated with obliquity.

NEW SCHOOL-ROOMS.—On Thursday, June 8th, the foundation-stone of new schools, adjoining Ebenezer Chapel, Shadwell, was laid by Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire. The proceedings were deeply interesting, and were witnessed by several hundreds. Nearly two hundred children were assembled on the platform, and sang appropriate hymns. After the stone-laying ceremony, Alderman Wire gave a suitable address to the children, and presented to each a new Testament (the gift of the teachers and other friends) as a memorial of the auspicious event; and each child was also supplied with a bun on retiring from the ground. A public tea-meeting was afterwards held, at which Alderman Wire presided; the meeting was large and animated. The Rev. R. S. Bayley, W. Tyler, Cowper, Cooper, Talbot, and J. Corderoy, J. Maitland, J. Hind, Esqs., were present on the occasion. It was stated that an appeal would be made to the general public, so that the school may be opened free from debt. There will be Sunday-schools, day-schools, class-rooms, &c.; the large room affording ample accommodation for more than a thousand persons—a room much needed in this neighbourhood for lectures to the working classes, and other public meetings.

RAMSGATE.—Services of a very interesting character were held on the 7th instant in connexion with the public recognition of the Rev. B. C. Etheridge as pastor of the church and congregation meeting in Cavendish Chapel. At 11 o'clock the Rev. H. J. Bevis, Independent minister of Ramsgate, read the scriptures and offered prayer. The Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., of London, delivered a very able discourse on the nature and constitution of a Gospel church. The Rev. F. Wills, of London (late minister) implored the divine blessing on pastor and people, after which the Rev. William Brock, of London, gave an affectionate and faithful address to the pastor, and concluded the service by offering prayer. At two o'clock a goodly number of the friends adjointed to the Royal Oak Hotel, where 130 sat down to an excellent dinner. The Rev. B. C. Etheridge presided, and was supported by the Revs. J. H. Hinton, W. Brock, F. Wills, H. J. Bevis, W. B. Davies, F. Bosworth, M.A. (of Dover), C. Kirtland (of Canterbury), D. Jones, B.A. (Folkestone), J. Stent (Hastings), F. Berkley (Margate), D. Ford, J. Pledge, J. Brook, and J. Crofts; S. Knight and G. Kitson, Esqs. (deacons), and other gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood. The cloth being removed an appropriate address was delivered by the chairman. On the motion of S. Knight, Esq., seconded by J. Hofesh, Esq., a vote of thanks was presented to the Revs. J. H. Hinton and W. Brock for the very excellent discourses they had that morning delivered; to which a hearty and suitable response was given. Congratulatory addresses were then delivered by the Revs. D. Jones, B.A., H. J. Bevis, W. B. Davies, J. Stent, F. Wills, and others. At five o'clock 250 friends assembled at the same place to tea; many being unable to gain admission. At half past six o'clock another service was held in the chapel. The Rev. D. Jones, B.A., read the scriptures and offered prayer, and the Hon. and Rev. Baptist W. Noel, M.A., of London, preached a powerful sermon to the church and congregation. The spacious edifice was well filled in the morning, but crowded to excess in the evening; and all present appeared to be profited and delighted with the services and engagements of the day.

TENBURY.—Thursday was a great day among the members of the Baptist denomination here, occasioned by the laying of the foundation-stone of a new chapel. On Sunday two preparatory sermons were preached by the Rev. B. Johnson, of Garway; and, on Wednesday evening, the Rev. J. Godson delivered an able address. The attendance on each occasion was

large and respectable. The want of room in the present chapel has long been felt, and hence the necessity of a larger place of worship. The funds for the purchase of the land and the erection of the edifice have been raised by voluntary subscriptions. The building will be forty-six feet by thirty-two feet. On Thursday morning, a public acknowledgment of the Rev. A. W. Heritage, as pastor of the church, was made. The Rev. J. Hall, of Hay, gave a lucid description of a Christian church. The recognition prayer was offered by the Rev. W. Stanley, of Peterchurch, and the Rev. J. Hall, of Gorsley, addressed a becoming charge to the minister. At the conclusion of the morning service, about sixty friends dined together at the house of the Rev. A. W. Heritage. At three o'clock there was a large assemblage of the members of the chapel, with numerous friends from Ludlow, Leominster, and Bromyard, and their intermediate villages, to witness the laying of the foundation-stone. That pleasing ceremony was performed by Mrs. Heritage, the wife of the highly respected pastor. There were several very interesting addresses delivered by the ministers present, and nearly £7 was contributed "as free-will offerings." At six o'clock about 350 persons partook of tea under the spacious marquee of the Tenbury Horticultural Society, kindly lent for the occasion, which had been erected in an adjoining meadow. The tea was, for the most part, gratuitously supplied by friends, the proceeds going towards the new chapel fund. After tea, reading and prayer by the Rev. B. Johnson; an excellent sermon by the Rev. J. Jones, of Lays-hill, to the church and congregation; and a concluding prayer by the Rev. A. W. Heritage, closed the services. The funds for the erection of the chapel are favourably progressing, and it is intended, if possible, to complete it this summer. The sum to be raised is about £700.—*Hereford Times.*

THE REV. DR. DUFF.—This celebrated Free Church orator and missionary has been taking the tour of the United States, and has just returned in time to attend the sittings of the Free Church Assembly in Edinburgh, where a special gathering took place last week to hear his report of the United States. "He drew," says the reporter, "a striking picture of the combined simplicity and dignity exhibited in the manner of his reception by the present head of the great American Republic. He described the noble measures now being adopted by Congress to arrest the downward course of the Red men, and to bring them under Christian influences. He explained the difficulties arising from the annual influx of half a million of immigrants, multitudes of them utterly destitute. It is a matter of delightful assurance, that there are already about 36,000 churches in the United States, or one for every 500 or 600 inhabitants; and the great bulk of these churches are in the hands of parties substantially Evangelical. The schools are like palaces, and are furnished most gorgeously. He traced the efforts of the Papists to evacuate religion from the common school system. But the alarm had been caught at length, and now it is the prevailing dogma, that Christianity is an integral part of the American constitution; or, as they put it, the Bible in the English language is Americanism. He referred to the astonishing energy which is the peculiar characteristic of America—mechanical energy, the energy of their religious societies, the energy of their educational system—a stupendous energy in every conceivable province of action. He conceived that we in this country have much to learn from the great American religious societies, in the mode of managing our operations. He then ran rapidly over a few points of his journey to the Canadas, and anticipated the splendid future of that noble country. He closed an address of almost four hours with one of his own fervid and thrilling appeals on the relations of love and cordiality which ought to subsist between the 'old country' and her mighty daughter, in this day and crisis of the nations, that together they may go forth with one heart and one soul, as Jehovah's sacramental host, under the banner of the great Messiah, till it is found waving over the last of the rebel nations. After a few minutes, Dr. Duff again rose, and stated, that on leaving New York, unsolicited and unsuggested, by him, bills on England to the amount of £4,000, for the Mission-building in Calcutta, were put into his hands. During his absence, Glasgow had raised about £3,000 for the same object, so that they had Glasgow and New York shaking hands over Calcutta and the Ganges."

A SABBATH AT PATMOS.—In a letter to a contemporary, dated from Alexandria, June 1, Dr. Halley describes a Sabbath spent on the coast of Patmos on the 28th of May, by himself and Dr. Raffles:—"I inquired of the officer on deck, 'When shall we see Patmos?' 'As soon as we pass that headland,' said he, pointing to the extremity of the island of Nicaria. After breakfast, Patmos was clear and full in view on the larboard-bow—a bleak and rugged island, with a precipitous coast, and several peaks rising to a considerable height. We had previously arranged with the captain to have morning service at half-past ten o'clock, at which time we were just opposite the north end of the island. Had we known the exact course we could not have fixed the time more appropriately. During the service, we were passing the ten miles of its rocky side. The town, strangely built around the monastery of St. John, which crowns the summit of a lofty hill, was distinctly in view. Not a ripple was on the sea, nor a sail on the water. We worshipped God, 'on the Lord's-day,' with nothing earthly but Patmos in sight. The ship's crew came in their Sunday clothes, with their Bibles in their hands, and sat attentively under the awning. Two Greek passengers joined in our devotions. Even the Turks, of whom about twenty were on board—pilgrims to Mecca—looked with apparent interest upon the island and upon our congregation. Dr. Raffles read the Morning Service of the Church of England, and his friends know how impressively he would read it. The captain led the

responses. If ever 'I was in the Spirit on the Lord's-day,' it was on that memorable occasion. Although I had intended to speak from another passage, no text seemed so appropriate as Revelation i. 9, 'I John, who am your brother and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.' After directing the attention of the audience to the exile of the apostle to the rocky island on my right hand, I preached the Gospel by explaining 'the testimony of Jesus Christ,' and exhorted the sailors, if ever they again passed the isle of Patmos, to associate with it 'the testimony' which was that day delivered unto them. Although, they were told, the town on the hill before them might perish, like the old popular cities which once flourished in the neighbouring continent of Asia, yet the rock would remain, it might be, a witness against them on a future day. But, even when it shall melt away with fervent heat, the Word of the Lord will endure for ever. The remainder of that Lord's-day, until Patmos faded like a shadow in the distance, was spent in thinking of that glorious revelation which Jesus then made to his servant John."

Correspondence.

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS AND EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Having read Mr. Lee's communication, which appeared in your last week's impression, relative to the Society of Arts and Mechanic's Institution, I should feel deeply indebted if you would allow me a small space in your valuable columns to make one or two observations relative thereto.

I believe that the young men identified with our Nonconformist churches are, as a class, far superior in general information and mental attainments, to those connected with the Establishment. I fully coincide with the sentiment expressed by Mr. Lee, that they would discharge the duties of important offices with fidelity, faithfulness, and rectitude. Happily, the time is not far distant, when the majority of Government situations will be thrown open to the competition of all persons, irrespective of creed or religious test. I sincerely trust, therefore, that many of our young men will apply themselves with the greatest assiduity to the study of those branches of knowledge in order to be prepared to pass an examination by the Society of Arts. I would strongly advise Nonconformist clergymen and laymen to do everything in their power to promote Mechanics' Institutions, thus rendering facilities to our young men, whereby they may be promoted to important offices in the State, the duties of which they would, I feel convinced, discharge with fidelity and satisfaction to their employer, and with honor to themselves as well as the church with which they may be identified.

Thanking Mr. Lee for his important letter, and trusting that he will subsequently give further information as to the branches of learning to the study of which our young men should more especially apply themselves,

I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

R. RICE DAVIES.

14, Lacey-terrace.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Church Rates, for the abolition of, 42.
Decimal Coinage, in favour of, 4.
Factory Labour, for further limiting of, 500.
Public Houses, for closing on Sunday, 46.
Reformatory Institutions, in favour of, 1.
University Tests, for abolition of, 6.
Valuation of Lands (Scotland) Bill, for alteration of, 6.
Church Building Acts Amendment (No. 2.) Bill, against, 2.
Dog Carts, for prohibition of, 2.
Drainage of Lands Bill, for alteration of, 4.
Hospital (Ireland) Bill, against, 1.
Medical Graduates (University of London) Bill, against, 1.
Ocean Penny Postage, in favour of, 1.
Paper Duty, for repeal of, 1.
Poor Law (Ireland), for amendment of, 1.
Police Bill, against, 53.
Reformatory Schools (Scotland) Bill, in favour of, 1.
Tenants Compensation (Ireland) Bill, in favour of, 4.
Borough and County Police, against consolidation of, 4.
Fire Insurance Duty, for repeal of, 1.
Gaols, against employment of Romish Priests in, 1.
Episcopal &c. Estates Bill, for alteration of, 2.
Friendly Societies Bill, for alteration of, 2.
Mortmain Bill, for alteration of, 1.
Payment of Wages Bill, in favour of, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Prisoners Removal Bill.
Warwick Assizes Bill.
Vice-Admiralty Court (Mauritius) Bill.
Poor Law Board Continuance Bill.
Youthful Offenders Bill.
Union Charges continuance Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Married Women Bill.
Warwick Assizes Bill.
Vice-Admiralty Court (Mauritius) Bill.
Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Reformatory Schools (Scotland) Bill.
Ecclesiastical Courts Bill.
Sheriff and Sheriff Clerk of Chancery (Scotland) Bill.
Public Revenue, &c., Bill.
Oxford University Bill.
Valuation of Lands (Scotland) Bill.
Excise Duties (Sugar) Bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME, AND PASSED.

Ecclesiastical Courts Bill.

DEBATES.

MR. PACKE'S CHURCH-RATE BILL.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, on the order of the day for the second reading of this bill,

Mr. PACKE said that it was with considerable reluctance that he was about to withdraw the bill introduced by him. He did not do so from any want of confidence in the principle of the measure, for, though there were objections to the details of the bill, yet, judging from the communications which he had received from every part of the kingdom, the principle on which he had framed the measure was regarded with approval and satisfaction. He had been induced to bring in this bill because the Government had not submitted one to the House. The late Sir, R. Peel, in 1835, addressing Lord J. Russell, had said that this matter was one of such importance that the session ought not to have passed without the Government bringing in a bill on it, yet, after having had nineteen years for the consideration of a measure, not one had been brought forward satisfactory to the country, and there was now no measure before the House but what he could only call the Church Destruction Bill of the hon. member for the Tower Hamlets. He regretted the absence on the present occasion of the Lord President of the Council, who, though he objected to some of the details of the bill, was, as he (Mr. Packe) believed, friendly to its principle. If the bill had proceeded, he should have struck out those clauses which had reference to the registering of Dissenters, as he had no desire of making an invidious distinction between Churchmen and Dissenters. (Hear, hear.) He should in the next session, if he did not receive an assurance that the Government intended to introduce a measure on this subject, bring in one framed on the principle of the present bill. In conclusion, the hon. member moved that the order for the second reading of the bill should be discharged.

Sir J. WALMSLEY said he had this day presented a petition from the Wesleyan Methodists, of Leicester against Church-rates. There had been statements made to the effect, that the Wesleyans, as a body were not averse to Church-rates. He therefore, on the behalf of that portion of his constituents, repudiated and entered his protest against such statements. (Hear.)

Sir W. CLAY thought the discretion of the hon. member in withdrawing his bill ought to be commended. With respect to what had been said as to the noble lord the President of the Council approving the principle of the bill, he hoped that was an unauthorised impression on the part of the hon. member, as he (Sir W. Clay), judging from the sentiments and conduct of the noble lord on this question, considered that he would not have supported the present measure. (Hear.)

Mr. PACKE assured the hon. member that he had no private authority for supposing that the noble lord approved the bill (hear); but he had, from the former speeches and conduct of the noble lord, hoped that he would have approved the bill.

Sir B. HALL thought the hon. member had exercised a sound discretion in withdrawing the present bill; but if he proposed to introduce another bill, omitting the registration clauses, he would have to introduce a bill, while differing from the present, of which the whole gist was the distinction drawn between Dissenters and Churchmen. The present bill was highly objectionable, as it was frittering away a great principle in favour of which there was daily a stronger feeling growing up, and should the hon. member for the Tower Hamlets not succeed in carrying his measure, he (Sir B. Hall) trusted that the Government would introduce a bill which would put an end to all disputes on this question.

Mr. BOOKER should support Mr. Packe on any future occasion if he introduced a bill framed on the principle he had mentioned.

The order for the second reading was then discharged.

PUBLIC REVENUE BILL.

The House then went into committee on this bill, and occupied some three hours in its discussion. An undertaking was, by Mr. WILSON, entered into on behalf of the Government, that modifications should be introduced in the measure before it came up for a third reading, exempting from its operation the salaries of the higher judicial functionaries in Ireland. Mr. CRAWFORD moved that the salaries of Scotch Sheriffs should be struck out of the schedule of exemptions, and placed in schedule B; which would have the effect of bringing them annually under the notice of the House. The motion was negatived by 110 to 21. Schedule A having been agreed to, it was moved that the chairman should report progress. Negatived by 82 to 33. The bill passed through committee.

SUGAR IN BREWERIES.

In Committee of Ways and Means Mr. WILSON moved a resolution permitting the use of sugar in breweries. At first it was proposed to prohibit the use of sugar in breweries, because it would facilitate frauds on the revenue. As absolute prohibition is not an effectual security, Government have resolved to encounter the risk of fraud, and therefore propose to continue the permission to use sugar granted in 1848, upon payment of 7s. additional duty per hundredweight—equivalent to the new duty on malt. Brewers will be required to take out a license at £1 per annum, merely for registration purposes. The resolution was agreed to.

COLONIAL INDEPENDENCE.

The Legislative Council Bill now before the House of Lords proposes to repeal the provisions of the Union Act which prevent the Canadian Assembly from altering the constitution of their Legislative Council, so as to bring it more into accordance with the popular requirements. The second reading of the bill was moved by the Duke of NEWCASTLE with an explanatory statement, in the House of Lords on Thursday, but the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH took occasion to raise the general question of the relationship between Canada and the mother country. He thought we had gone so far in concession to Canada that the question arose, whether we ought not to sever the connexion between

that colony and the mother country entirely, and thus get rid of a responsibility for which very little advantage was derived in time of peace, while great harm might arise from it in the time of war. Mr. Huskisson, in 1828, while Colonial Secretary, intimated most distinctly that the time had already arrived for the separation of Canada from this country, and Mr. Huskisson had even so maturely considered the matter, that he mentioned the form of government which he thought it would be for our interest to have established in Canada when our connexion with the colony should cease. During the last few years a complete change had taken place in our relations with the North American colonies. For several years, too, in dealing with the Legislative Assemblies of the colonies, we had acted on a principle diametrically opposed to that which formerly influenced us; we had established in the colonies what was called responsible government, or—to speak more intelligibly—we had given them, practically, independent Governments. And, really, he could hardly imagine a situation more humiliating than that of the representative of her Majesty in Canada. It was almost wonderful a British gentleman would consent to hold such a situation of nullity, unless, indeed, from a consciousness of his own abilities and resources, he should think himself able to be, as Lord Metcalfe was, the Minister of the colony. What was the use—what the practical advantage of continuing our connexion with the colonies? The connexion might be of some small use in time of peace; but, on the other hand, consider the danger arising from it in matters relating to war. There could be no doubt that the chances of collision between this country and the United States were greatly increased by our connexion with the North American colonies. It was equally certain, that in the event of war occurring between this country and the United States, on grounds totally unconnected with the colonies, they must, from their connexion with us, be drawn into the war, and their whole frontier would be exposed to the greatest calamities. Considering the increased strength and appliances at the command of the United States, it would hardly be possible to defend Canada with any hope of success. The very idea of a war with the United States was horrible. The event would be one of the greatest evils; one of the direst of human afflictions. Under these circumstances, he hoped that, at an early period, the Government would communicate with the leading persons in the Legislative Assemblies of the North American colonies, with the view of ascertaining their opinion on the subject of a separation. We should consult with them in the most friendly spirit, as if they were members of one and the same family in which we felt a deep concern.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE warmly expressed his regret, his astonishment, that a legislator and statesman like Lord Ellenborough could propound doctrines so unpalatable to the colonies; an offence against the sovereignty of the country, and hostile to her best interests. When Mr. Huskisson looked forward to separation, he saw that state of things which nine years later led to a rebellion. What was meant by speaking of the humiliating situation of the representative of the sovereign in those colonies? Because the sovereign of this great country has not the arbitrary power of the Emperor of Russia, is her sway a nullity? But the Duke must deprecate these discussions. The safe defence of Canada is the loyalty of the people; and the last thing they will advocate is separation.

Lord BROUGHAM said he came within the description of persons against whom the Duke had spoken so indignantly—those who desire the separation of Canada from the mother-country, while they do not wish to throw the colony over. The opinion is not novel. It was entertained by Lord Ashburton and Lord St. Vincent; and the best thing that can happen to a colony after "passing the youth of nations" is separation in amity.

The Earl of HARROWBY could not see what advantage the colony would gain by separation, enjoying, as it does, all the benefits of an independent state; and he believed that the idea is not entertained in Canada.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

The Oxford University Reform Bill, as reconstructed, came before the committee on Thursday. There was a great deal of discussion, and more than one unsuccessful division; no change of importance being made. On clause 31, enabling the Colleges to amend their statutes with respect to eligibility to Headships, &c., Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER, to meet objections from other quarters, moved the insertion of the words, "with due regard to personal merits." This was negatived by sixty-three to forty-one. Mr. HAYWOOD moved the omission of the words, "to make ordinances for promoting the main designs of the founders." Negatived by ninety-two to fifteen. As it was thought the Visitor ought to be consulted, the words, "with the consent of the Visitor," were inserted. Mr. WIGRAM moved the insertion after "purposes" in line forty of the words, "so always that such regulations and ordinances shall not be inconsistent with the main designs of the founders or donors." Negatived by ninety-two to eighty-seven.

When the clause was put, Mr. BLACKETT complained that no opportunity had been given of discussing the bill in its new aspect. Considering the determined opposition it had met in its early stages, and the stronger opposition they might have anticipated, he thought Ministers had no alternative but to yield with a good grace what they would have been compelled to yield. But whose fault is it that so little popular sympathy has been elicited in support of the measure? The country is not indifferent, for many petitions have been presented for the admission of Dissenters; and why had Lord John Russell thrown away his steadiest supporters by the course he had taken? It was not debate, but support, that had been all conciliated away. The bill is now a permissive measure as regards the Fellows, who have a veto, and compulsory only as regards the

Heads. The bill will entail the necessity of Parliamentary interference, as the Fellows will not use the permissive powers.

The clause was agreed to.

On clause 32, empowering the Commissioners to frame ordinances when the Colleges omit to make them, Mr. E. DENISON objected to that part of the clause which empowered two-thirds of the "governing body" of a College to present those portions from taking effect, by declaring that the ordinances and regulations proposed by the Commissioners are prejudicial. Lord JOHN RUSSELL said Government thought the alteration made in the bill is an alteration for the worse, but it was necessary in consequence of the votes of the House. He had never acted on the principle of rejecting a measure because he could not have it just as he liked. The bill will make some considerable improvements, and lay a foundation for others. Mr. WALPOLE said there was some chance of passing a proper measure; but it still required improvement. Sir WILLIAM HEATHCOTE moved an amendment. As the clause stood, the governing body would be required to declare, in order to arrest alterations, that they were prejudicial to the College "as a place of learning and education;" that was too strict a limitation on the veto, and he moved the omission of those words. Negatived by 159 to 111.

The clause was adopted, and the Chairman reported progress.

On Friday, the House again went into committee. Very little alteration was made in the remaining clauses. On the question being put that the new clauses be added to the bill, Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER moved a new clause, to be inserted after clause 32, enacting that two months' notice shall be given by the Commissioners to the Governing Body of any school or place of education whose privileges or right of preference in election to any emolument either the Commissioners or any College should propose to abolish by ordinance or regulation, and also notice to the Charitable Trusts Commissioners; and that no such ordinance or regulation should be made if within two months two-thirds of the Governing Body or the Charitable Trusts Commissioners should declare their opinion that it would be prejudicial to the school or place of education in question. This clause Mr. Palmer supported by a speech on the great usefulness of public schools, and the injustice that would be done to them by taking away emoluments which gave them so much encouragement. Mr. GLADSTONE described the clause as impracticable; and contended that the schools are sufficiently protected by the right of being heard on petition before the Privy Council. Sir WILLIAM HEATHCOTE, Mr. R. PHILLIMORE, Mr. WALPOLE, Sir THOMAS ACLAND, and other members, supported the clause. Lord JOHN RUSSELL described it as a clause that would preserve all the privileges of the inferior, the bad, and the decayed schools. On a division, the clause was carried, against the Government, by 160 to 108. The Chairman was ordered to report progress, and the House resumed.

On Monday the committee was resumed, when Lord J. RUSSELL announced that it was proposed to nominate the Earl of Harrowby and Mr. George Cornwall Lewis as the additional Commissioners for the purposes of the act.

Mr. PHINN moved a clause, enacting that no action shall be maintainable for the recovery of any debt contracted by any person under the age of twenty-one years who at the time of contracting such debt shall be a student in the University of Oxford. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that a serious evil existed, but it was a question, he observed, whether the remedy should be limited to the Universities alone, and whether the proposed clause would provide an effectual remedy. After some discussion, at the suggestion of the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, who undertook to consider the subject before the report, Mr. Phinn postponed this clause and other clauses of which he had given notice, relating to the Court of the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford. Mr. BLACKETT moved the insertion of a clause abrogating all the oaths taken in the university upon admission to offices or emoluments. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion, considering that the object was within the scope of the enabling powers given by the bill. Upon a division, the motion was negatived by 109 against 71.

Mr. J. PHILLIMORE moved a clause, enacting that no person shall, on account of his rank, pass his examination or take a degree sooner than any other undergraduate. The motion was opposed by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, and negatived upon a division, but by only a single vote, the Ayes being 66, and the Noes 67.

Mr. BOWYER moved a series of clauses, the object of which was to restore and promote the study of the civil law and jurisprudence in the University of Oxford, by providing that degrees in civil law shall not be conferred until the candidates have undergone a certain examination, and by offering inducements to take such degrees. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER objected that the subject was one not proper for the House to entertain.

The motion, after undergoing some discussion, was withdrawn.

Several unimportant clauses, moved by Mr. HEYWOOD, were negatived without much debate.

An alteration was made in the preamble, and the bill was ordered to be reported.

THE MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES.

The House of Lords, on Friday, had rather an animated discussion on the Estimates, which was started by the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, in moving for certain returns for the year 1838 and downwards. He took occasion to condemn, in a set speech, the extravagant expenditure of Government. He stated that the charge for the Miscellaneous Estimates of this year was £1,480,000 above that of 1838. There was, for instance,

the item of Education, on which the increase was £362,000.

Those who are desirous of having the public money expended in the education of the people have held out hopes that the moral condition of the people would by that expenditure be materially improved. I confess that I have always entertained very great doubts upon that subject, and upon this ground, that, as long as we remain under that dispensation of Providence which requires that man should earn his bread by the labour of his hands, it is essential that the children of the poor should, at a very early age, leave their schools and proceed to work for their daily bread. I believe it is utterly impossible, during the short time that they can remain at school, to give them that moral tuition which can alone be of service to them. Further than that, I cannot but apprehend that we are mistaken in supposing that all the education which is provided through the administration of public funds is in addition to the education that previously existed. I believe, on the contrary, that that education has to a very great extent supplanted the education which was before afforded in small establishments, and given through the private charity of individuals, who maintained schools and looked after the condition and the progress of the children in these schools; and I cannot but apprehend that, in point of fact, the public establishments so created, in which education is given, although the education may be better than that which was before given in private establishments and by private charity, are not accompanied by those great social advantages which resulted under the former system, from the constant presence of those by whom these schools were maintained, and their constant supervision over the conduct of the pupils. But whether my apprehensions are well founded or not, it is at least certain, that the result which was anticipated has not been accomplished; and I regret to have to state to your lordships that, while we expended in the last year £362,000 more than in 1838, for the purpose of making the people better, we have been obliged to expend £629,000 more for the purpose of coercing them—I mean for the expenses of prisons and transportation. The increase of the expenses of prisons in 1853 over 1838 is not less than £585,000, and a further increase will be required for this year of not less than £126,000, so that the total charge on account of the control that is exercised over criminals in prisons, and by means of transportation, is greater now by £711,000 than it was in 1838.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH showed that the cost of the school of practical art had risen from £1,300 to more than £17,000, and the geological establishment from £2,800 to £15,000. When the two departments were united, the charge for them, instead of amounting, as might have been expected, to £32,000 or £33,000, was increased to £44,476, and in this year, 1854, when it was above all things most essential to practise economy—when there were such large demands for matters actually required for the public safety, an addition of £29,000 had been made to this charge; so that in the present year we are to pay £73,000 for that which amounted to only £4,100 in 1840.

You can create a large amount of educated mediocrity, you can erect a large number of buildings, you can produce bad pictures and bad statues, but you cannot have genius for your money. That is a thing which cannot be obtained in such a manner, and you are, therefore, really throwing away a large amount of public money for a purpose which money cannot obtain.

The noble earl then noticed the increased cost of the Poor-law Commission and Houses of Parliament. Upon the British Museum £695,000 was expended—an expense exceeding that of every department of the State except one. They were told that education was to produce morality,—of course, moral people would not commit offences, and of all the portions of the British empire, that in which education has made the greatest progress, and which ought, therefore, to be the most moral country, was Scotland. But, in fact, the cost of correcting bad Scotchmen had increased 100 per cent. (Laughter.) For whereas in 1838 it was £53,000, it now amounted to £107,000. But whereas the expenses of criminals in Ireland were formerly £68,000, they are now reduced to £56,000—so that the Irish have improved 18 per cent., while the Scotch have deteriorated 100 per cent. (A laugh.) The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH then noticed in detail other estimates, such as those for transportation, for taking the census, for public works, &c.

I have made a calculation by which I find that the Government has thus thrown away this year a sum which would have purchased 98 steam gunboats, every one drawing four feet of water, and carrying a 68-pounder, by which, if sent to the Black Sea, we might have commanded the Sea of Azof, and, if sent to the Baltic, we should have been able to take Sweaborg and destroy Cronstadt. (Hear, hear.) Economical considerations prevented you from buying or building vessels of this description, by which alone the work of the war can be done, and yet you have, on the items which I have read, thrown away money enough to have carried all the expense. The war on which we have entered is one which promises no decisive success at an early period. No man could be more willing than myself that we should embark in the war, because I believe it to be just, necessary, and politic; but its objects are more obvious to statesmen than to the people generally. Is it reasonable to suppose that throughout the war you will have the same support from the people as you have now? I cannot believe it, and for that reason I would impress on the Government the necessity of economy. You must show the people that you do not engage in unnecessary expense, and that you save all the money in your power by rejecting matters which are not absolutely necessary, and postponing those which are not immediately required.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE regretted that it was absolutely impossible to follow the noble earl into the details of the expenditure of the last twenty years, which he had stigmatized at such length. An inquiry of this kind belonged rather to a select committee, and could not be disposed of in a single speech. The noble duke then replied to the observations of Lord ELLENBOROUGH as to one or two branches of the miscellaneous estimates. The noble earl seemed to think that the system of education supported by Parliamentary grants had superseded some system previously existing. The

national system in Ireland had superseded the hedge-row schools in Ireland; but that was a change which he thought no one could lament. (Hear, hear.) True, there had been an increase of expenditure for prisons, because, while they educated the young, they endeavoured to correct and punish the sins of the old; but looking to this branch of expenditure he was justified in saying that, reference being had to the increase of population, the augmentation was not as great as it would have been if they had not expended money on education. A very large proportion indeed of the sum of £711,000, which was stated as the difference between the expenditure in 1838 and 1854 on account of prisons, had not arisen on account of any increase of crime, but was an apparent increase only, by reason of a change in the mode of making out the estimates. The noble duke ended by saying that he should not oppose the returns, and by assuring the noble earl, that if he required any further information on the subject, and would give formal notice of a motion, the Government would do their best to justify the financial measures of the present Administration.

Lord BROUGHAM eulogised the Duke of Newcastle's impromptu defence, and objected to Lord ELLENBOROUGH's conclusions on education.

If he wanted an illustration of how dangerous it was to argue upon such statistical facts as formed the basis of his noble friend's conclusion, he should only have to remind their lordships of the gross absurdity of the argument which his noble friend had deduced from the papers before him, and which was neither more nor less than this—that in one part of the United Kingdom there had been a great improvement in the morals of the people, and a diminution of crime, while in another part, Scotland, there had been no improvement; but that the people there had become a great deal worse—worse by a hundred per cent.—and that the people of Scotland had become twofold degraded in the course of the last three or four years. His noble friend had left them one item on which to congratulate themselves with respect to the state of things in the sister kingdom—Ireland. He should be sorry to detract in any manner from the praise that might be bestowed upon the improved morality of the people of Ireland, but his noble friend had forgotten what had happened during the sixteen years that had elapsed since the year 1838, which was the period with which he had compared the estimates of 1854. There had been since that time what was called the "exodus." He thought that would explain the diminution of crime in that part of the United Kingdom, as well as the diminution in the number of people. There was one species of education which went directly to the prevention of offences—he meant infant instruction. If they took infants three or four years old they could train them to virtuous habits, keep them out of harm's way, and remove them from the contaminating influence of profligate parents. By this course of moral training they might be fitted to become good, innocent, and useful members of society. His impression was, that the grants of public money had been carefully distributed, so as to interfere as little as possible with individual charity or bounty. Any contrary course would have been opposed to the original intention of these grants, as recommended by the Education Committee of 1818.

The Duke of ARGYLL said that, so far as he knew, there was no increase in the criminality of Scotland which was not proportionate to the increase of the population. But, if there had been any increase in crime, that circumstance would tell against, and not in favour of, the whole argument of the noble earl, for unquestionably of late years the whole population of Scotland had outrun the means of education there. It was too late in the day to argue against the beneficial effects of education; but if the noble earl wanted statistics on this head, particularly in respect to the juvenile criminal population, he would refer the noble earl to papers laid before Parliament in recent years in regard to Aberdeen, and to the effect which the establishment of certain schools had had in decreasing juvenile delinquency 50 or 60 per cent. in twelve months.

After a brief reply from the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, the conversation ended.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord LYNCHURST called the attention of the House to the memorandum presented by Austria and Prussia to the Germanic Diet, from which it was perfectly clear that, according to the agreement existing between the Four Powers, no alteration was to take place, whatever might be the result of the war, in the territorial limits between Turkey on the one hand, and Russia on the other. The *status quo ante* was, in fact, to be maintained. By this arrangement the navigation of the Danube, a question of vital importance, not only to Austria, but to all Germany and all Europe, was to be left at the mercy of Russia; and, if we were to forego the advantages which we seemed on the point of attaining, we must be content to abandon for ever the free navigation of that noble stream. So long as the Turks had control of the mouth of the Danube they kept the passage clear by a very simple process, but, since the unfortunate treaty of Adrianople, in order to foster the trade of Odessa, every impediment had been thrown in the way of the navigation by the Russians. So, again, with respect to Circassia, having by the superiority of our naval force, shut up the Russian fleet in Sebastopol, and destroyed their forts on the east coast of the Black Sea, could it be supposed that, after such successes, we were, by restoring the *status quo*, to abandon the Circassians to Russian rule? If Russia were placed in her old position, what security was there that she would not repeat her machinations against Turkey; nay, was it not certain that she would repeat them, until she had accomplished her purpose, and hunted down what she had considered since the days of Catherine as her destined prey? The noble lord then proceeded to prove this position by quotations from the despatches of Count Nesselrode and Prince Pozzo di Borgo, and to insist that we must obtain an effectual guarantee for the integrity of Turkey.

What assurance can you have that a Power of this cha-

acter will not infringe any engagements, however positive, into which she may enter? For my part, I look upon an engagement with Russia on a subject of this kind as perfectly useless. It would not be worth the paper on which it might be written. (Cheers.) Look at her whole conduct, and then, if any person can be credulous enough to trust in any statement of Russia, or in any engagement into which she may enter contrary to her own interests, all I can say is, that I admire the extent of his faith. (Hear, and laughter.) I remember hearing an eloquent speech from a noble lord on the cross-benches, as to the necessity of placing confidence in a person with whom we might be negotiating; but the speech, though eloquent, was not convincing. As far as relates to the transactions of private life, confidence may properly be founded upon character; but when great interests are depending, and when we employ agents to protect those interests, give me leave to say that caution, jealousy, and foresight, are the qualities which should characterize our negotiations. (Cheers.) I am of the same mind as Charles Fox was when he said he preferred the old Parliamentary word "jealousy" to the modern one, "confidence." (Cheers and laughter.) When the interests of millions are at stake—when the liberties of mankind are in issue—away with confidence. (Cheers.) Confidence generally ends in credulity. (Loud cheers.) This is true of statesmen as of individuals. (Hear, hear.) My lords, the history of Russia from the establishment of the empire down to the present moment is a history of fraud, duplicity, trickery, artifice, and violence. The present Emperor has proclaimed himself protector of the Greek church in Turkey, just as the Empress Catherine declared herself protector of the Greek church in Poland. By means of that protectorate she fomented dissensions and stirred up political strife in the country. She then marched into Poland, under the pretence of allaying tumults, and stripped the kingdom of some of its fairest provinces. We know the ultimate result; it is too familiar to require more particular reference. Look at another instance of Russian policy of more recent occurrence. Russia agreed to a treaty with Turkey by which she recognised the independence of the Crimea. Nevertheless, she stirred up insurrection in that country, under the old pretence of protecting one party against another, and when the opportunity offered she sent Suwaroff, one of her most barbarous generals, into the Crimea, who murdered the inhabitants and despoiled them of their territory, while a line of Russian ships invested the coast, and cut off all communication with Constantinople. At the very moment when this was being done Russia was not only at peace with Turkey, but was actually negotiating a treaty of commerce with her. (Loud cries of "Hear.") The Russian Government is marked by all the characteristics of Asiatic barbarism. St. Petersburg is merely a second Tobolsk. When Napoleon was going to Egypt he took possession of Malta and another small rock in the Mediterranean, which caused Pitt to say that there was nothing too vast for the aim of his ambition, nothing too small for the grasp of his rapacity. The remark is as applicable to Russia as it was to Napoleon. Russia has doubled her European territories within the last fifty years, and yet she is bent on possessing herself of Khiva. The loss of two armies does not deter her from prosecuting this purpose, although the place cannot be of the slightest value to her except as affording her the means of annoying us in respect to our Eastern possessions. In this way does Russia go on for ever. Take the most recent instance. While Nicholas was pretending to act the part of protector of Turkey, and trying to cajole the Sultan with professions of friendship and esteem, he was at the same time planning the partition of his empire. (Hear, hear.) This is the Emperor with whom you are now dealing, and on whose statements and representations we are to rely! (Cheers.) When Prince Menschikoff was despatched to Constantinople, Count Nesselrode assured our Government that his mission was connected with nothing but the dispute between the Greek and Latin churches; but after he had been a short time in Turkey, the Prince opened negotiations with the Turkish Government—which he threatened with vengeance if it should venture to oppose his views—having for their object the placing of Nicholas in a position in which he would share the government of the country with the Sultan. These circumstances should put us on our guard against placing the slightest reliance on any engagements into which Russia may enter. We must have guarantees for the fulfilment of her undertakings. I do not mean personal guarantees—they are worthless. Russia has coined a new phrase of which we may avail ourselves—"material guarantees." (Cheers and laughter.) Russia must give us what she calls material guarantees; and if we hold in pledge or mortgage something valuable which she would not like to lose, we may hope to bind her to her word; but as for moral guarantees—as for a pledge of good faith and honour—such things, coming from Russia, are to my mind of no value whatever. (Hear, hear.) But then my noble friend opposite may say, What course would you pursue? What is your policy? My reply is, that that would depend a good deal on the events of the war. ("Hear, hear," from the Ministerial benches.) This, however, I unhesitatingly declare, that in no event, except that of extreme necessity, ought we to make peace without previously destroying the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, and laying prostrate the fortifications by which it is defended. (Great cheering.) If we leave Russia that fleet and those defences, we leave her in a position in which she will be sure to coerce Turkey, because in that case Turkey must—to use the words I have already quoted—be subservient to her will. (Hear, hear.) I know not what course Austria intends to pursue, but I think I may venture to state that, in this matter, she has far more at stake than either England or France. (Hear, hear.) Should Russia hold permanent possession of the Principalities, the whole southern frontier, and, indeed, the independence of Austria would be threatened. If this monstrous—I know not what to call it—this leviathan Power, which stretches forth its arms so many thousand miles from east to west, and presses on the northern and eastern frontiers of Austria, should also succeed in establishing itself on her southern frontier, Austria must be crushed. (Hear, hear.) What course Russia will take if she should succeed in obtaining possession of the provinces of Turkey in Europe it is not for me to predict. That she will not stand still—that she will not remain stationary, is certain. She knows—to use the emphatic language of the Emperor—that surrounding nations contemplate her colossal power with awe, and know that her vast armies only await the signal for pouring like a deluge over the states and kingdoms of

the world. My lords, I feel strongly upon this subject, and I believe that if this barbarous nation—this enemy of all progress except that which tends to strengthen and consolidate its own power—which punishes education as a crime—should once succeed in establishing itself in the heart of Europe, it would be the greatest calamity that could befall the human race. (Sustained cheering.)

The Earl of CLARENDON, in reply to Lord Lyndhurst, explained the circumstances which had induced the Austrian and Prussian Governments to draw up the protocol referred to by Lord Lyndhurst.

The allusion to the *status quo*, though somewhat ambiguously expressed, has reference solely to German interests on the Lower Danube. The occupation of the Lower Danube by Russia had already greatly obstructed the freedom of commerce and the navigation of the Danube. That I have attributed the correct meaning to the declaration is evident from the paragraph which states that a vast field is opened for German industry in the East, and that it is essential that the great outlet by the mouth of the Danube should be obstructed. The object of the declaration is to announce that the contracting Powers would not consent to territorial changes in any of the great States of Europe which would injuriously affect German interests. That is not an unnatural declaration to proceed from two great German Powers to the minor Powers whom they invite to co-operate with them for a common object.

Dismissing the memorandum as possessing in reality much less importance than had been assigned to it, and abstaining from any attempt to determine the value of Russian assurances, the noble earl proceeded to justify his confidence in the faithfulness of Austria as our ally in the present emergency. There were, it was true, some German Powers who looked with awe at the imaginary omnipotence of Russia; but, to her credit, Austria had not shared in this ignominious feeling, and, if she had not moved in this matter with the speed which some desired, her position must be remembered, and allowance made for the close personal relations which had till recently existed between the Courts of Vienna and St. Petersburg. Besides, "an alliance with the Western Powers was, on the part of Austria, nothing less than a complete revolution—a change of policy so great as was not to be expected." Still Austria had given orders for concentrating an army of 30,000 men between Transylvania and the borders of Wallachia, and he formed a treaty with the Porte that he should send troops into Servia if the Russians entered into the Principality. At that time, indeed, the Emperor of Austria was disposed to act more vigorously; and he would have concluded a convention between the Four Powers, "but obstacles which were insurmountable prevented him from doing so." He, however, did agree to the protocol of the 9th of April, which embodied all the terms that had been agreed upon by the other Powers. About the same time, Austria and Prussia agreed to a treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive, which had reference solely to German interests. But there was an additional article to that treaty, which provided that the two powers, Austria and Prussia, should require Russia to suspend all warlike operations within the Turkish territory; that a definite answer should be demanded on these two points; and that, if such an answer was not returned as should give complete security and satisfaction to the two Powers, then Prussia pledged herself that she would have her army in readiness to co-operate with Austria, and, if the Principalities were attacked, then Austria and Prussia together were to take the offensive. At the beginning of this month a summons by the Austrian Government, announcing that determination, was sent to St. Petersburg. In anticipation of the answer being unfavourable, the Austrian Government, after communicating with Her Majesty's Government and with the Emperor of the French, proposed a convention with the Porte, by which Austrian troops were to be permitted to enter the Principalities, in order to occupy them as long as was necessary, Austria having stated to the English and French Government that she was determined, however much her assistance might be required, not to permit an Austrian soldier to enter the Turkish territory without having previously obtained the consent of the Sultan. At the same time, Austria placed at the disposal of the Porte any number of troops that might be required for reducing the insurrection in Montenegro. She also offered that her ships should co-operate with ours in order to suppress the Greek insurrection. And his belief was, that at the close of this month, or at the beginning of the next, the Austrian army, organized and equipped for active service, would amount to 300,000 men. After such acts, and with the experience Austria had now of Russian policy, he could not believe that she would be so wanting to her interest and her dignity as to conclude such a peace as Lord Lyndhurst had described—a peace which could be no more than a mere hollow truce, to which England could not be a party (cheers) and which would leave her at the mercy of Russia.

My noble and learned friend has asked what were the terms which would be proposed for effecting a peace with Russia. My lords, I cannot possibly say, any more than my noble and learned friend, upon what terms peace can be made. That must depend upon the chances and contingencies of war. And, indeed, my lords, if I did know upon what terms we alone would be prepared to make peace—if I was prepared to say that we would accept no other terms than those which the noble and learned lord himself would accede to—I assure your lordships it would be the most imprudent course I could possibly take. (Hear, hear.) But this we know, that the policy of Russia, and the power she has hitherto possessed of carrying it out, have been and are dangerous to the peace and well-being of Europe, and that both are adverse to the cause of progress and civilization. And we also know that the object and interest of Europe must be to curtail that power and to check that policy. We know that the means of doing it are now so great and effectual, and that the opportunity is so wonderfully favourable, that if we were now to neglect it we should in vain hope for its return. (Cheers.)

All Europe is not to be disturbed, great interests are not to be injured, the people are not to have fresh burdens imposed upon them, great social and commercial relations are not to be abruptly torn asunder, and all the greatest Powers of Europe are not to be united in arms for an insignificant result. I think that you must agree that repression will only postpone the danger, and that safety can alone be found in—(The last word of the noble earl was lost amid the cheers that followed the close of his speech.)

Lord DERBY expressed his entire satisfaction with the language of Lord CLARENDON. He hoped it would be followed by acts as vigorous and decisive.

This he would say, that the people of this country, having expended very large sums of money, having made incredible exertions, and being prepared to make still greater exertions, and meet all the inconveniences of a war, he was convinced they would not be satisfied unless the Government resolved that from henceforth there should be security taken for the independence, not of Turkey alone, but of the neighbouring States of Russia against Russian aggression. But above all, as his noble and learned friend had said, one great object with them ought to be—as well in point of honour as of policy—not to desert the gallant people (cheers) whose course we had advised, and who had so valiantly pursued that course—not to make our own terms, and then finally leave them to the vengeance of Russia when she had no other enemy to deal with. (Hear, hear.) Were we to adopt such a course, we should be guilty of a base betrayal of our duty. (Cheers.) For the future it was impossible to permit that the Black Sea should be a Russian lake (cheers), or that the Danube should be a Russian ditch, choked with mud and filth. (Cheers.) We must have a material guarantee for the peace of Europe.

The Earl of ARBUTHNOT submitted that neither the Government nor the country now required any stimulus to urge them to an active prosecution of the war. That war, he remarked, had from the beginning been defensive, and engagements entered into strictly with the view of preserving Turkey from encroachment, might possibly read somewhat obscurely when the contingencies seemed to include the invasion of Russia. Austria being an independent power, could not be compelled to proceed further in the contest than she had already undertaken to do; but, on the other hand, the Western Powers were not bound to accede to any Austrian disposition for peace. Denying that Europe suffered much real peril from the ambition of Russia, he pointed out that even towards Turkey, since the treaty of Adrianople, Russia had interfered only for the purpose of protecting the Porte from a rebellious vassal. War, he urged, should be waged merely for the sake of peace, though not less vigorously on that account, and should be terminated at the first moment that peace became possible on a just and honourable basis.

After some remarks from Lord BRAMONT, the subject dropped.

MATTERS RELATING TO THE WAR.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, Sir JAMES GRAHAM, in reply to Sir G. PEACHELL, said that every arrangement had been made which the Admiralty hoped would be conducive to the comforts of the prisoners of war belonging to the late ship *Tiger*. Communications would be made through the Foreign-office to the Minister of a friendly power at St. Petersburg. He was not sure whether it would be possible to convey letters.

In reply to Lord DUNDY STUART, Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that, of course, estimates would be laid upon the table of the House relative to the new War Department, and when such estimates were placed upon the table a statement would be made to the House, and then would be the proper time to put any questions on the subject.

Mr. COBDEN called attention to a blue-book which had lately been laid on the table, containing nearly 300 pages, and bearing a title which did not very fairly express its contents. It referred almost in every page to the internal affairs of Turkey, and the part taken by our representative at Constantinople, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, in those affairs. There were many points in those documents—such, for instance, as the invitation declared to have been given to Austria to occupy a part of the Turkish territories without previously consulting Turkey—which required elucidation and explanation. He would be glad if Government would afford an opportunity for that purpose. Lord JOHN RUSSELL said, that if Mr. Cobden had a motion to propose, he should be ready to consider whether an evening could not be fixed for the discussion of it, but otherwise he could not consent to a day being set apart for the subject. He had no statement to make on the subject.

In reply to Mr. BRIGHT, Lord J. RUSSELL declared that there was no truth whatever in the report that our Ambassador at Constantinople had been recalled.

ECCLIESIASTICAL GRANTS FOR PRISONS.

In Committee of Supply, on Monday, a vote of £164,165 being proposed for the maintenance of gaols, Bethlehem Hospitals, and pauper lunatic asylums, Mr. SCHOLEFIELD moved as an amendment that the vote should be reduced by £100, being the amount of the salary of the chaplain in a lunatic asylum. Referring to the vote passed some days since retrenching the item allowed for the ministrations of Roman Catholic priests in prisons, he wished to test the principle by proposing a similar reduction in the case of a Protestant chaplain.

Mr. PELLATT asked why the sum voted for reformatory schools was increased this year from £3,000 to £5,000? Mr. FITZROY said that the increase arose from a desire on the part of the Government to give these institutions a wider field of operation, and to test the system of reformatory schools on a larger scale than had been previously tried. (Hear, hear.) There were some few juvenile institutions established by private benevolence, and through private and local interest, in different parts of the country, to which it had been thought desirable to send juvenile offenders for the purpose of ascertaining whether the system therein enforced might not be an improvement upon that necessarily employed in our gaols. (Hear.)

Mr. T. CHAMBERS said a gaol being an institution of the country the observance of the religion of the State was provided for in it. If there was to be an exception to the rule it ought not to be an exception in favour only of Roman Catholics. (Cheers from Roman Catholic members.) He was glad that those honourable gentlemen concurred in that remark. The Protestant religion was as much an established religion within as without the walls of the gaol; but, inasmuch as it was the Protestant religion, there should be the greatest liberty of conscience in connexion with it.

Sir J. YOUNG said there was certainly no novelty in the principle of paying the chaplains of the different criminal establishments in Ireland. As regarded this particular case, though the establishment was called an asylum, it was in fact a gaol. The proportion of Roman Catholics was about four out of every five inmates, and these unfortunate people would be deprived of the consolations of religion if they were not provided for them by the State.

Mr. H. DRUMMOND was quite ready to support the Government either in giving salaries to all sects of Dissenters alike, or in refusing salaries to all; but they should do one or other. (Hear, hear.) They must not, however, blow hot and cold, coming one day for a cold vote, and another for a hot one.

Mr. PHINN agreed with Nonconformists in the general principle that not a shilling should be paid for the support of any religion whatever. It was, however, absurd to carry that principle to an extreme, and to exclude from the privileges of their religion those who were not free agents. He should vote with great pain and difficulty for the amendment of the hon. member for Birmingham.

Mr. SPOONER had always opposed the support of the Papacy, and always should do so. But he wished not to deprive Roman Catholics of the consolations of their religion—for it was a religion—only let them pay for it. ("Oh, oh.") They were asking for a privilege which was enjoyed by none but the members of the Established Church. (Hear, hear.)

Lord PALMERSTON then addressed the House. Mr. Adderley had said that he (Lord Palmerston) proposed to appoint a Roman Catholic chaplain to every gaol in the kingdom, whether the prisoners were few or many; but he had proposed no such thing, and, without a change of the law, he could not have done so. The proposal was confined to three or four Government prisons, in which there were a large number of convicts, and had no reference whatever to the great bulk of the county gaols. (Hear.) With regard to that vote, he would only say that there never was a vote which had excited more painful feelings in his mind; and he could not have believed, had he before been asked, that in the present state of the country, with the spread of enlightenment and liberality in all religious matters, that a vote like the one proposed could, by any possibility, have been rejected. (Hear.) What was the House doing the other evening, when they had their enemies, vice, infidelity, crime, and ignorance, not thundering at their gates, but undermining the very ground under their feet? Instead of uniting to resist these enemies, they were squabbling about their petty differences, and were refusing the assistance which would aid in converting these miserable wretches, and the want of which prevented them from becoming useful members of society. (Hear, hear.) That was the state in which the House had been, and, grievous as was that state, he yet thought that the vote now proposed exceeded the peculiarity (a laugh) of the vote of the other evening. The other evening they had Protestantism against Catholicism; but on the present vote, the difference introduced was as between the voluntary principle and the principle of payment. He hoped hon. members would not contend for their religious differences over the bodies of these unfortunate lunatics (hear); to do so would be similar to having a surgical theory discussed over the body of a man for whose relief and benefit the operation was to be performed.

Mr. LUCAS wished that hon. gentlemen who advocated the voluntary principle would take a lesson from America—where opposition to the Established Church was carried as far as even those hon. members could require. They did not in America carry the voluntary principle to the extent which hon. members here desired, for there it was not understood, neither ought it to be so in England, that the voluntary principle extended to those who were not free agents. (Hear, hear.) In almost every gaol in Ireland there was a paid Presbyterian chaplain, although in many of them there was not a single Presbyterian convict. He wished to look upon this subject not so much as a question of money as a question of discipline, what was required being a change in the discipline of the prison, so as to do justice to the Catholic prisoners.

Mr. KIRK observed that there were forty-two gaols in Ireland, and that in twenty-five of them there was no Presbyterian chaplain.

Mr. HADFIELD supported the amendment. The people would not consent to have taxes wrung from them in order to maintain principles which they disapproved. He agreed with the hon. member for Meath that the question could never be settled unless justice was done to all. They must at last come to the principle that religion could and would maintain itself, if grants, which were injurious and prejudicial to all, were withheld.

Mr. S. HERBERT said that a great deal had been done by the Dissenters, and greatly to their credit, by the adoption of the voluntary principle, but when the operation of the principle upon the general population of the country was considered, not only the merits of the principle, but the position of those on whom it was to act, should be borne in mind. (Hear, hear.) By the voluntary principle, every one who received religious instruction paid for it, the rich contributing

for the poor; but men in prison were debarred from the privilege thus afforded, and it was, therefore, the duty of the State to provide for them religious instruction suitable to their peculiar tenets. (Hear, hear.) If the hon. gentleman opposite objected to pay Roman Catholic chaplains, why did he not vote to rescind the vote with regard to army chaplains? (Hear, hear.) The question with regard to the army was not nearly so good as with regard to prisons.

Mr. SPOONER had not been aware of any entry in the army estimates where any specific vote for Roman Catholic chaplains was contained. He would take care not to overlook the vote on a future occasion. (A laugh.)

Mr. S. HERBERT said the army chaplains were two-thirds Protestants and one-third Roman Catholics, and a vote was granted every year in that proportion to the different denominations.

The committee divided. The numbers were—

For the vote	246
For the amendment	23
Majority	—223

Several other votes were then taken. On that of £7,547 for the ecclesiastical establishment of the British North American colonies, Mr. ADDERLEY asked whether Ministers intended to proceed with the Colonial Clergy Bill? Lord J. RUSSELL stated, in reply, that the Government had not come to a final determination on the point. The vote was agreed to, as was also one of £9,438 15s. 10d. for the Indian department, Canada.

The CHAIRMAN reported progress at midnight on the motion of Mr. BROTHERTON.

INAUGURATION FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A morning *fête* was given by the directors and shareholders of the company on Saturday to the representatives of foreign Governments and other distinguished guests who had honoured the ceremonial of the opening with their presence. After several days of clouds and rain, the sun shone forth brightly, and there was a large and distinguished party assembled. It was felt to be only right that the company should mark by some act of special hospitality the unprecedentedly liberal manner in which their enterprise has been treated abroad, where, with one or two insignificant exceptions, their artists had free permission to copy every work of art requisite to a complete illustration of the progress of sculpture and architecture in different ages of the world. The arrangements for the *fête* were simple yet highly effective. The eastern half of the grand transept was partitioned off from the nave, and served as a fine apartment for the reception of their guests by the directors and shareholders. A portion of the basement story immediately beneath, and looking out upon the terrace garden, had been fitted up as a banquetting hall, no less than thirteen parallel tables being half enclosed in one shaped like a crescent, which was reserved for the most distinguished of the company. Here accommodation had been provided for nearly 700 people, and an elegant *déjeuner* laid out. The fair sex, also, were partakers in the *fête*, their gay presence vastly enhancing its attractiveness. A good selection of music, played at intervals by the band, added much to the liveliness of the scene. There is hardly any phase of society among us which was not well represented on the occasion; though a Cabinet Council prevented the leading members of the Government from attending. The toasts were not too numerous nor the speeches too long; and when the *déjeuner* had terminated, and ladies and gentlemen ascended again to the grand transept, an abundant supply of tea, coffee, and other light refreshments, helped them to close the *fête* in the agreeable form of a *conversazione*.

The *déjeuner* was served at three o'clock. Mr. Laing presided, and the Bishop of Oxford said grace. After the usual loyal toasts, followed that of "the foreign guests," proposed by the chairman, and responded to by Count Lesseps, the French Commissioners. But the orator of the day was the Earl of Carlisle, who said:—

I have been honoured by a request to propose to you a toast upon the present occasion—and, whatever may be the shortcomings of the proposer, and whatever the dignity of the audience, I yet feel sure that I may calculate upon your ready and unanimous approval. (Cheers.) That toast is—"Success to the Crystal Palace." (Loud and protracted cheering.) I am happily relieved from any necessity of explaining or recommending such a toast by the notoriety of all the circumstances which have attended the origin and progress of this great undertaking, by the interest evinced in the very fact of the attendance of an assembly of such varied distinction, and, above all, by the mute but eloquent and all-sufficing testimony of the fabric itself. (Cheers.) It may be said, I am happy to think, not as an epitaph upon the tombs of the men who have contributed to its completion, but as a tribute to their living merits—"If you want a monument, look around." (Loud cheers.) Success, then, to the Crystal Palace, partly on account of that liberal breadth which has distinguished the whole conception, principle, and design; for while, as we saw last week, crowned heads and their representatives, and universities and municipalities, the great, the learned, and the fair, crowded round its cradle and blessed its auspicious birth, there is not an obscure class of society, there is not a struggling son of toil, for whom it does not store up and throw open its treasures, whether for blameless recreation or wholesome instruction, and, while its contents may minister to the most refined taste and to the soundest knowledge, it seeks to provide for the common, the public, the universal enjoyment and improvement. (Great cheering.) Success to the Crystal Palace, since to those who, by their circumstances, their means, or their duties, are confined to the narrow circuit of our own shores, it extends some, at least, of the pleasures and advantages which have been heretofore exclusively confined to the wealthy or the unoccupied. (Hear, hear.) I, myself, who now thus venture to address you, come here fresh

with the most recent impressions of all that is most lovely in nature and most admirable in art. Yet, when I wander into the Greek, the Italian, or Byzantine courts above, I can almost feel that I am again gazing at the glittering cupolas of St. Sophia or St. Mark's, or upon those masterpieces of Phidias which still remain on their own immortal rock. (Cheers.) Yet, in those delicious climes the thought will too often obtrude itself which is contained in the expressive line of one of our own poets, that

"All, save the spirit of man, is divine"

(hear, hear);—but here, under our weeping skies and amid our murkier atmosphere, the spirit of man has been enabled to recall the foliage, the blossoms, and the odours of the tropics, or to retrace the unsurpassed forms of human genius. Success, again, to the Crystal Palace, because throughout its birth, its growth, and its maturity, it has been the work of private enterprise. (Cheers.) And, although during its rapid progress it has been constantly cheered by a Royal smile, and sustained throughout by the sympathy of millions, yet it is through unbidden and unaided efforts that it has become all that you now see it. (Loud cheers.) I could not wish, and, if I could wish, I should not be able, to classify the services which have brought about this brilliant result. I may just say for myself, that the pleasure I have felt in being present this day has been materially enhanced by a long private regard for my distinguished friend Sir Joseph Paxton. (Loud Cheers.) And you will also, perhaps, just allow me to say, that I feel assured you will join in the regret I myself cannot fail to feel, that the business both of this day and of last Saturday has wanted the presence of another friend still more intimately connected with him—I allude to the Duke of Devonshire. (Hear, hear.) But I feel confident that, though I decline the task of classifying any difference of merit or exertion that may exist between the distinguished persons who have brought this great enterprise thus far to maturity, any such difference will be most accurately and candidly measured by the agents in the work themselves. I know, too, that the prospect of its being a remunerative enterprise cannot have been one that was foremost in their minds; yet they, as well as we, are bound to wish, if only as a test to the amount of pleasure and benefit which the Crystal Palace may confer upon others, that it should be abundantly remunerative to themselves. (Cheers.) And this I am sure you will all feel, however romantic or chivalrous their disregard may be for their own interests. Success then, once for all, to the Crystal Palace. It is the wish of my heart that many a happy generation may disport themselves beneath its gleaming roofs, all along its well-stored courts and suggestive galleries, or among its *parterres* and stately terraces, there feel the thrill of gratitude to that Creator who has implanted in their souls the sense of beauty, and learn lessons of that lowly reverence which offers up all the treasures of this world as an incense to the God of all worlds. (Great cheering.) I have thus said little enough, I know, for my subject, but I trust I have said enough to induce you on this occasion to join with me in drinking with as much warmth and goodwill as the wish requires, "Success to the Crystal Palace."

The toast was, of course, drunk with three-times-three, the ladies joining in the demonstration by waving their handkerchiefs.

The Chairman responded. He was glad to have an opportunity of doing that which the noble earl had told them did not devolve on him to do,—viz., to classify, in some degree, the merit which might be apportioned to the different persons who had been engaged in the enterprise. And, first, he would classify the merit of each by assigning to his distinguished friend, Sir Joseph Paxton, the honour of designing the undertaking. (Loud cheers.) They might have had a hundred boards of directors to do what the board had done, but they could not have had another Sir Joseph Paxton. (Great cheering.) He was the only person at that moment living and breathing in Europe who could have achieved that proud triumph of science and art which had reared the Crystal Palace on the beautiful hill of Sydenham. (Loud cheers.) He would next mention two names—also henceforth illustrious in the annals of English art—his friends Mr. Owen Jones and Mr. Digby Wyatt. (Renewed cheers.) It was to their eminent talent, and to their unwearied zeal and assiduity, that the collection of those treasures of art, which every one must admire, was mainly owing; and, if the reproach which had so long been attached to England of not understanding or appreciating the fine arts was destined, as he hoped, speedily to pass away, he did say that to those three names—Paxton, Jones, and Wyatt—would be due the gratitude of posterity. (Loud cheers.) To return to the board of directors, whose organ he was, the only merit they claimed in promoting the undertaking was, that they had faith in the genius of those men, and faith also in the English people. (Great cheering.) He said "faith in the English people," because if the undertaking was to be carried out successfully, it was evident that, however much they might value the patronage of the distinguished and noble of the land, who then honoured the company with their presence, it was to the hard-working industrious millions of England that they must look for the complete success of their work. (Loud cheers.) For his own part, he would say, and for every one of his colleagues, because he knew it from intimate conviction, that they entertained the strongest persuasion that the mass of the English nation would support liberally whatever deserved to be supported, and would insure their success if they were worthy to achieve it. (Cheers.) The noble earl had truly observed, that remuneration was not the only object sought for in the undertaking. They had, he trusted, pursued higher and nobler objects. At the same time, he did not conceal the anxiety with which they looked forward to the enterprise being remunerative as a commercial speculation. (Hear, hear.) For they were convinced that should it prove to be so, it would be the signal for embarking great masses of the overflowing capital of the country in similar enterprises of an educational and philanthropic character, which would tend by degrees to raise the bulk of the people to a higher level of social elevation than they had yet attained. (Loud cheers.) With these feelings, he could only once more thank the company on the part

of every one connected with the rearing of the noble structure in which they were assembled, and assure them that it was among the dearest wishes of his heart to see the toast they had just drunk—the success of the Crystal Palace, the palace of the people of England—realized. (Great cheering.)

With the toast of "This Ladies," the formal proceedings of the dinner terminated.

From an official return we learn that the number of season tickets disposed of previously to the opening was 20,167. It appears, also, on the same authority, that those were admitted on the 12th instant, 2,096 five-shilling visitors, and 2,656 season-ticketholders, making a total of 4,752. On the 13th, which was wet, 1,847 five-shilling visitors, and 1,833 season-ticketholders, making a total of 3,680. On the 14th, which was dry, but rather overcast, 2,641 five-shilling visitors, and 2,920 season-ticketholders, making a total of 5,561. On the 15th, which was exceedingly wet, foggy, and disagreeable out of doors, 1,413 five-shilling visitors, and 1,230 season-ticketholders, making a total of 2,643. On the 16th, 1,763 five-shilling visitors, and 1,460 season-ticketholders, total 3,223. On the 17th, 4,389 five-shilling visitors, and 7,425 season-ticketholders, total 11,814.

The first shilling day at Sydenham, like the first shilling day at Hyde-park, fell considerably short of previous anticipations, but yet showed a very large total of visitors—11,659; of whom only 1,236 were season-ticketholders. Although a large number of the visitors evidently belonged to the higher classes, there was still a very considerable sprinkling of country and working-people. The babies in arms mustered in considerable numbers; and many of the women carried the unmistakable baskets which indicate the artisan family out for a day's pleasure. Some grumbling was caused on the important question of refreshments, in consequence of many of the visitors sitting down in the wrong place and dining at the highest tariff; but others, who knew the locality better, and found their way to the tables expressly provided for working-people, found to their satisfaction that they could get a plate of first-rate beef, bread, and a glass of Calvert's porter, for sevenpence halfpenny. The table at which these moderate charges prevail is placed just at the end of the railway corridor, looks out pleasantly on the gardens, and will, when finished, be one of the most convenient refreshment rooms in the building. One very large detachment came from the extensive printing-office at Messrs. Bradbury and Evans. In compliance with the exigencies of the trade, the men had given up their Whit-Monday, and the employers in return treated them to a day at the Crystal Palace and their fare on the railway. The number from this one office was 364, and coming as they did in a body they made rather a formidable demonstration.

The experience of the first week establishes in a most satisfactory way how well adapted the Palace is for exercise and recreation during wet weather. The inconveniences of transit to the London-bridge terminus once overcome, the visitor is thereafter entirely sheltered from rain, and, even with the surrounding landscape enveloped in mist and soaked with moisture, the atmosphere within the building, dried in its passage through the louvre-boards, is pure and balmy.

We understand that the demand for space is rapidly on the increase, and that many of the exhibitors have already done an amount of business which more than realises their expectations. It is worthy of remark, that the agricultural implement makers are most numerously represented at Sydenham.

DIVISION ON THE BALLOT.

The Parliament of 1853 (says the *Spectator*) has been twice tested on the question of the ballot. On the 14th June, 1853, Mr. Henry Berkeley asked leave to introduce his bill, and was refused by 282 to 172; hostile majority, 80. On Tuesday last, the 18th June, he repeated his motion, and it was negatived by 194 to 167; hostile majority, 37. In the one case, 404 Members were present; in the other 351; showing a diminished attendance of 53; the absentees consisting of 88 opponents of the ballot and 15 of its friends. The difference (23) marks the numerical diminution in the opposing majority.

The following exhibits the state of the vote upon the two occasions in so far as gentlemen holding official and Court appointments are concerned.

1853. For—Mr. Grenville Berkeley, Mr. Richard Bethell, (now Sir Richard Bethell), Mr. Bouvierie, Colonel Boyle, Sir Alexander Cockburn, Mr. Keogh, Sir William Molesworth, Mr. Bernal Osborne, Lord Alfred Paget, Mr. Charles Villiers; 10. Against—Mr. Baines, Lord Ernest Bruce, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Charteris (now Lord Elibro), Mr. Cowper, Lord Drumlanrig, Mr. Gladstone, Sir James Graham, Mr. Hayter, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Lord Alfred Hervey, Mr. Moncreiff, Lord Mulgrave, Lord Palmerston, Mr. Frederick Peel, Lord John Russell, Mr. James Wilson, Sir Charles Wood, Sir John Young; 19.

1854. For—Admiral Berkeley, Sir Richard Bethell, Mr. Bouvierie, Mr. Keogh, Sir William Molesworth, Lord Alfred Paget, Mr. Charles Villiers; 7. Against—Mr. Baines, Lord Drumlanrig, Lord Elibro, Mr. Gladstone, Sir James Graham, Mr. Hayter (teller), Mr. Sidney Herbert, Lord Alfred Hervey, Lord Mulgrave, Lord Palmerston, Mr. Frederick Peel, Mr. James Wilson, Sir Charles Wood, Sir John Young; 14.

In consequence of the great advance which is taking place in the price of paper, it is rumoured that a movement is now going on in Glasgow to raise the price of newspapers one halfpenny each. The *Birmingham Mercury* has taken the initiative among the English journals, having just added a halfpenny to its price.

Postscript.

THE WAR.

THE SIEGE OF SILISTRIA.

The *Monitor* publishes a despatch from Bucharest, of the 16th, announcing that, since the affair of the 13th before Silistria, the siege operations had been suspended. Details respecting the action itself are wanting; but it is known that Prince Gortschakoff was wounded. General Schider has had his leg amputated at Kalarash. A Russian report states that a Turkish brigade from Shumla succeeded in entering the fortress on the 13th. It is also rumoured that General Ludens has been wounded, and that much dissension exists among the Russian Generals at headquarters, probably induced by the ill success of the late operations. Prince Fashkevitch, who was on his road to Jassy, is said to have been ordered to return and take Silistria at any cost.

General Liprandi has evacuated Blatina. He returns with his division to the direction of Ploesthi.

The Turks have driven the Russians out of Futurak, which they have occupied with a strong garrison, and have also strengthened the garrison of Rutechuk.

The story of the Russians retiring beyond the Pruth is not noticed by the *Monitor*, nor is it in any way confirmed. The *Times*, which made so much of the report, now thinks it probable that the Russians intend to occupy, at least, part of Wallachia and the line of the Sereth in Moldavia.

THREATENED COLLISION BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA.

In allusion to the new treaty between Austria and the Porte, the *Times* says:—Although the forms of diplomatic intercourse are not yet suspended between the Courts of Vienna and St. Petersburg, the engagements which Austria has now contracted with the enemies of Russia, both in the East and in the West of Europe, are certainly inconsistent with the maintenance of amity or peace. The Austrian forces under General Schlick have already advanced to the extreme north-eastern frontier of Galicia, and the headquarters of this division have been transported to Mikulinsk, a place within about twelve miles of Tarnopol, and about twenty-five miles from the Russian boundary. The passes of the Carpathians, through which lie the only roads from Transylvania to Moldavia, are already watched and occupied on each side by detachments of the respective armies; and when the Austrians cross their own frontier, it remains to be seen what reception they will meet with from the Russian troops on the other side. The two imperial armies are now so near to each other, and are said to be animated with such intense hostility, that the slightest contact may give rise to an explosion. It is probable, however, that on this part of the frontier the Russians will fall back on the Sereth and the Pruth; and that, if they assume the offensive at all against Austria, their movement will take place further to the north, where the Kingdom of Poland outflanks Galicia, and enables General Pankutin, at the head of the first and second divisions of the Russian army, to threaten Cracow and the high road to Moravia.

Respecting the note recently forwarded to St. Petersburg by Austria, the *Augsburg Gazette* says:—"The Imperial Government does not in any way refer to the recent convention with Prussia. The Austrian Cabinet now has to defend the interests of the empire, and it is therefore renounce all claim to be considered a mediator between Russia and the Western Powers. Great stress is laid on this; and it is distinctly stated that the Imperial Government does not undertake to obtain any concessions from the Western Powers should Russia consent to evacuate the Danubian Principalities and the rest of the Turkish territory within a given time. In kindly but positive language the St. Petersburg Cabinet is requested to specify exactly the time by which the Imperial troops will have returned to Russia."

THE FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

The combined fleet is now collected in Baro Sound, a few miles from Helsingfors. The French fleet joined on the 13th instant, and Rear-Admiral Corry on the 11th, with twelve sail of the line. The flags of both nations fly on board of each ship. The British fleet consists, in all, of forty-four sail, carrying 22,950 men, with an armament of 2,022 guns. The French fleet comprises six line-of-battle ships and four frigates, with an aggregate complement of 6,300 men, and 704 guns. These united maritime forces of England and France, therefore, amount to fifty-four sail, armed with 2,726 guns, and supplied with 20,160 seamen and marines. On the 12th nine ships of the line proceeded further up the Gulf of Finland, and anchored abreast of the port of Helsingfors, and about eight miles off the shore. The three paddle steamers were despatched inland to take soundings, which occupied several hours. The enemy's fleet inside the harbour amounts to eight line-of-battle ships and four frigates or corvettes. The enemy made no movement. It is said that a chain is drawn across the harbour. Revel is 16, and Helsingfors 12 miles from the anchorage of the fleets.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

According to a telegraphic statement from Amsterdam, the Russian loan is all taken. The market quotations for Russian stocks, however, were flat.

The first of the six steam gun-vessels now building from Admiralty drawings, by Messrs. R. and M. Green and Mr. C. J. Mars, has been launched by Messrs. Green, from their yard at Blackwall. She was christened the *Wrangler* by the wife of Captain Cannan, R. N. The rest of the vessels are in a very

forward state. They will carry two large pivot guns and six broadside guns.

The rear-guard of the Russian corps, which had evacuated Soukouna-Kale, had suffered very heavy losses in a desperate battle near Kutais, and the various divisions which had quitted the coast fortresses had been unable to effect their junction. The army of Asia was thus cut in two, and the position of many corps was exceedingly critical.

The *Times* correspondent at Janina, under date June 7, says:—"We have heard here of the occupation of Athens by the allied troops, and the fine promises of King Otto; the occupation comes rather late now that the Turks have driven out nearly all the Greek bands; it will only serve as a pretext to say that the patriots retired out of respect for the Western Powers, while every one here knows that the Bashi-Bazouks and Redifs had also something to do with their retreat. From all I have seen here in Epirus, I cannot bestow praise enough on the humane way in which the Turkish authorities behaved during the whole movement. Pasha Effendi, Hossim Pasha, and Abdi Pasha vied with each other in showing that they had fully entered into the spirit of European ideas. They have done all in their power to repress the excesses of the Albanians. A letter from Cattaro, of the 7th, says, that the Montenegrins, after meeting with several partial checks, had suffered an important defeat near Sanasquedo. One corps, in which a nephew of Prince Danille was an officer, had been entirely destroyed."

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords did not sit yesterday. In the Commons, at the mid-day sitting, the Wreck and Salvage Bill passed through committee.

Some progress was made in the committee of the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Bill, when, at four o'clock, the House adjourned until the evening.

On resuming at six o'clock, in reply to Lord D. Sturges, Lord J. Russell said, that the Austrian Government had declared that, if it would be of any use to the Porte to march troops into Servia, they would be ready to do so; but, without any desire being expressed to that effect by the Porte, they would not take that step, except in one of two cases. The first was, if the Russians should march into Servia; and the second, if an insurrection should take place in Servia, which, in all probability, would be an insurrection in favour of Russia against Turkey. With regard to the protest addressed to the Porte by the Serbian Government against the occupation of that Principality by the forces of Austria, that was a document which no doubt could be given. The Government had no knowledge of any convention between Austria and the Porte respecting the occupation of Albania by Austrian troops, and he did not believe that any such convention was in existence. The Austrian Government had proposed to the Porte that, in case aid should be at all desirable in suppressing the insurrection in Albania, the Austrian troops should assist the Porte for that purpose. The Pasha, however, immediately on the frontier, had declined any assistance on the part of the Austrian troops, and the Austrian commanders, therefore, had probably not passed beyond the frontier.

Mr. MOWATON CHAMBERS then called attention to the claims of Baron de Bode, and moved the following resolution:—"That the national good faith requires that the just claims of Baron de Bode, established after protracted investigation, should be satisfied." The Attorney-General resisted the motion. The claim had been thoroughly investigated by various tribunals, and he justified the conclusions adverse to the claim at which they had arrived. The question was argued at much length upon purely legal grounds by Mr. BOWYER, Mr. T. CHAMBERS, Mr. WALFORD, Mr. MALINS, in favour of the motion; and by Sir F. THURGOOD and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER against it. Mr. Spooner and Mr. DUNLOP avowed that they had come down to the House impressed with an opinion favourable to the baron's case, but that the debate had wrought a change in their opinion. Mr. M. CHAMBERS having replied, the House divided; when the motion was negatived by 82 against 67.

On the motion of Sir E. FLEMING, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the sanitary and agricultural state of the marshes on the sides of the Thames, the means for their improvement, the existing legal powers for the purpose, and the necessity for further legislation thereon.

Sir W. MOWATON obtained leave to bring in a bill to confirm provisional orders of the General Board of Health, applying the Public Health Act to the districts of Plymouth, Hanley, Haworth, Much Woburn, Abchurch, Bishop Auckland, Willenhall, and Over Darwen.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to one o'clock.

Prince Albert, accompanied by the King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto, visited the Crystal Palace yesterday morning at ten o'clock. The number of admissions for payment at the doors in the course of the day was 11,632, and of season-ticketholders 1,836, making a total of 12,568.

The Queen gave a state ball last evening at Buckingham Palace. The guests were unusually numerous, the invitations exceeding 2,000. The Queen opened the ball with the King of Portugal in a quadrille, at 10 minutes before 10 o'clock, the opposite couple being Prince Albert and the Princess Mary of Cambridge.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, June 21, 1854.

The weather being fine the trade in Mark-lane is very quiet to-day.

Arrivals this week.—Wheat, English, 350 qrs.; Foreign, 11,500. Oats, English, 20 qrs.; Foreign, 3,200 qrs. Flour, English, 490 casks; Foreign 1,110 casks; 450 barrels.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP RETURNS.

The return of penny stamps for newspapers in the United Kingdom for the years 1851-2-3, has been followed by a return showing the number of stamps issued to the various journals published in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin for the first quarter of the present year. We have before shown that, according to these returns, the circulation of the *Nonconformist* has progressively increased since its establishment in 1841—that while in 1842 the number of stamps supplied to us was 110,850, in 1853, it had risen to 167,000—and that our circulation in the last-named year showed an increase of 17,825 over that of 1852. The new return more than confirms these favourable conclusions, and enables us to draw up the following list of metropolitan newspapers having a smaller circulation than our own:—

Names.	Stamps.	Stamps.	Stamps.	Stamps.	Stamps.
	1851.	1852.	1853.	1st Qr. 1853.	1st Qr. 1854.
NONCONFORMIST	149,700	149,175	167,000	39,500	41,000
Spectator	150,000	149,000	146,500	38,500	40,000
British Banner	196,900	193,375	202,205	39,750	36,500
Wesleyan Times	263,315	247,210	244,000	50,000	31,000
Watchman	214,000	190,000	170,309	40,000	30,000
Leader	115,000	98,000	120,700	25,500	29,000
John Bull	110,000	110,000	93,000	20,000	25,000
Britannia	123,000	124,250	105,508	27,750	24,500
Atlas	90,250	73,852	76,500	19,500	23,750
Patriot	137,000	137,700	131,986	33,000	30,000
Weekly News	93,000	107,500	66,000	15,000	15,000
Christian Times	86,500	69,500	69,575	16,500	14,000
Inquirer	50,000	44,500	40,000	12,000	14,000

* Twice a week.

It appears from this statement, that our circulation during the past quarter surpassed that of twelve other London journals, and places us at the head of the Dissenting press. While our issue was 4,500 more than the highest of our Nonconformist contemporaries, it was nearly three times that of the lowest. We hope we may be allowed to regard this distinction as an incentive to continue in the course we have heretofore pursued, and an indication that steadfast adherence to radical principles and independence of sects and parties, is a sure passport to public confidence.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The NONCONFORMIST affords an excellent medium for advertisements of Assurance Companies, Schools, Philanthropic and Religious Societies, Books, Situations, and Tradesmen's announcements, &c.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

s. d.	s. d.
For 3 Lines .. 1 6	For 6 Lines .. 3 0
4 Lines .. 2 0	7 Lines .. 3 6
5 Lines .. 2 6	8 Lines .. 4 0

For every succeeding Line, 8d.

Eight Words are contained in a Line, and each Line of CAPITALS is charged as Two Lines. Advertisements must be paid for in advance.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The Terms of Subscription are (payment in advance) 26s. per annum, 13s. for the half-year, and 6s. 6d. per quarter.

All communications RELATING TO ADVERTISEMENTS, AND SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE PAPER, should be addressed to Mr. William Freeman, Publisher, 69, Fleet-street, London, to whom POST-OFFICE ORDERS must be made payable at the General Post-office.

Covers for binding the *Nonconformist*, price 3s. each, and Portfolios for filing the current volume, price 4s. 6d. each, may be had at the Publishing-office, or through any bookseller or news-agent.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Commercial Truth."—The accuracy of our quotations from the "Newspaper Stamp Returns" may be verified by a reference to the document itself. We should be very reluctant to expose the mis-statements of any contemporary, which will no doubt, be eventually corrected.

"Robert C. Serpell" will see the impropriety of our columns being made the medium for his proposal. A correspondent is anxious to obtain the *Nonconformist* for March 29, 1854, if any of our subscribers can spare that number.

Our next LITERARY SUPPLEMENT will be given with the number for Wednesday, July 4.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1854.

SUMMARY.

THE great debate in the House of Lords on Monday night, besides being a very favourable display of patrician eloquence, is calculated considerably to influence out-door opinion. The Peers were roused into unaccustomed excitement. Cheers, such as rarely echo in the gilded chamber, where aristocratic dulness is the presiding genius, greeted the nervous declamation of the venerable Lyndhurst, the fervid though measured language of Clarendon, and the cogent reasoning of the ex-Prime Minister. From these indications it might be surmised that the determination of their lordships to exact a "material guarantee" from the Emperor of Russia, even though he should evacuate the Principalities, is unusually unanimous. This, no doubt, is in accordance with the current of

opinion out of doors, now, singularly enough, vigorously led on by the *Times*, which is, from some unexplained cause, breaking away from its championship of the Coalition Government, and advocating a decided anti-Russian policy. Can it be that the Aberdeen Cabinet is still divided in opinion, and that the leading journal gives utterance to the views of the more decided section? The different tone adopted by the Lord President and the Colonial Secretary on the hustings, and the Premier and the Foreign Minister on the floor of the House of Lords, in speaking of the war and its contingencies, favours the suspicion.

But, whether we are to witness for the second time the compromise of differences, or another Ministerial crisis, followed by the return to power of the Earl of Derby, with the anti-ballot and anti-reform Lord Palmerston for War Minister, there is but small probability that Russia will be effectually crippled at the termination of hostilities. England is in the position of Sinbad with the old man on his shoulders. In all her movements, not only must she consult France, but Austria, with her army of 300,000 "organised and fully equipped for active service," as Lord Clarendon joyfully informs us. The House of Hapsburg, but lately tottering to its base, has, not by internal strength, but the number of its bayonets, become the arbiter in this great European quarrel. For it is clear, from the language of the protocol signed and confirmed by the Four Powers ("the undersigned plenipotentiaries record, with satisfaction, that the existing war cannot in any case lead to modifications in the territorial boundaries of the two empires, which would be calculated to alter the state of possession in the East established for a length of time, and which is equally necessary for the tranquillity of all the other Powers;") that, whatever be the result of operations by land and sea, this country is bound by this instrument to maintain the *status quo ante*, unless the two German Powers otherwise decide. To this vital obligation, so clearly stated by Lord Lyndhurst, the Earl of Clarendon had no reply to make. He altogether shirked the difficulty. His trenchant denunciations of Russian rapacity and duplicity are more suggestive of clap-trap than of a definite policy. Those who still anticipate solid results from the present war, who indulge in pleasing visions of Polish nationality, of Finland rescued from Cossack domination, and of Circassia emancipated from the Muscovite yoke, as consequences of this fearful expenditure of blood and treasure, must remember that it is Austria rather than England, Prussia rather than France, with whom will rest the solution of these great questions. For our part, we prefer the studied moderation of the Prime Minister to the unmeaning declamation of the Foreign Secretary. Lord Aberdeen does not, at all events, lead us to expect results which the German potentates are never likely to acquiesce in. We are pretty sure to be smothered by our allies.

With diminished interest we turn to the scene of hostilities, and note that in the defence of Silistria the Turks have more than maintained the prestige gained throughout an arduous campaign; that "grim visaged" war, not satisfied with whole hecatombs of victims, has disabled the three foremost men in the Russian service—Prince Paskiewitch, General Gortschakoff, and General Schilders; that the retrograde movement of the Muscovite forces, either for concentration at Jassy, or retreat across the Pruth, is more than probable; that the Circassian warriors seriously menace the retiring Russian garrisons; that Admiral Plumridge has successfully devastated the coast of Finland; and above all, that Austria has obtained permission to occupy the abandoned Principalities.

One of the calamitous incidents which usually attend on war, without participating in its presumptive benefits or honour, is the loss of the *Europa*, transport-ship, by fire. The misfortune, originating probably in the dampness of the hay stored on board, was discovered about ten o'clock at night; and it was two hours before the last of the survivors quitted the ship. Twenty-one persons, and fifty or sixty horses, perished in the flames or in the waves. This frightful loss of human life might certainly have been spared had not the crew and some of the soldiers deserted with the smaller boats, while they might yet have been of service. The ship-master and Colonel Moore behaved with heroic fortitude—the latter, it seems, even refusing the last chance of saving himself when the last hope of saving others was gone. It is matter for something more than regret that the horse-boat, the prompt use of which might have stilled the fears of the selfish and averted the self-sacrifice of the brave, could not be lowered—it being full of spars or other stores. That it was designed for the sole purpose of debarkation, is scarcely a reason why it should not have been kept in readiness against the familiar perils of voyage. It is to the neglect of means of escape even more than to the oversight of sources of danger, that these off-recurring catastrophes are owing.

The re-elections have gone off even more

quietly than was anticipated. Lord John Russell escaped the verbal opposition with which he was threatened—Mr. Urquhart's proposer failing to appear, and his hope in "the spontaneous action" of the citizens proving vain. Sir George Grey obtained—of course—the languid acquiescence of Lord Carlisle's electors of Morpeth, to his re-appearance in the House of Commons as their representative; and treated them to a characteristic oration—a turgid torrent of words that conveyed neither thoughts nor information.*

A meeting of some fifteen or twenty thousand persons in Leeds, called to consider the propriety of petitioning for the suppression of Sunday traffic in liquor, and adopting that proposal, after an animated discussion, by a small majority, is a symptom of earnestness and power that cannot easily be disregarded. The publicans appear to have made great efforts to defeat the promoters of the meeting; and we observe that they are elsewhere organising resistance. The operation in Scotland of Forbes Mackenzie's act—of which some indications will be found reported elsewhere—should be closely and impartially watched; that the question may not be prejudiced for England by irrelevant theory or groundless apprehension.

The exciting intelligence of almost revolutionary agitation in Boston on the fugitive-slave question, is the topic of a separate article. We may, therefore, confine this concluding paragraph to the announcement that Lord Elgin, our Canadian governor, has succeeded in effecting at Washington a treaty of commerce between the States and the provinces which at once precludes misunderstanding on the fishery question, and promises to swell their already prosperous trade in nearly every article of produce and manufacture.

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DRUDGERY is never desired for its own sake. Hope may make it tolerable—love may make it pleasant—but unless it leads to something, or can be made to express something, better than itself, it is what human nature will avoid if it can. Jacob would not have served Laban so many years, but to obtain Rachel. Senatorial labours, if conscientiously attended to, involve of necessity, a vast deal that is wearisome—talk, talk, never ending talk, is sadly exhaustive of the animal spirits of those who cannot choose but listen. But when days and nights are consumed in attending to discussions from which no practical good is likely to result, and when one finds that "toil and trouble" ends in nothing better than "bubble, bubble," that must be either a duller or stronger mind than common, which does not pant for a release. The House of Commons just now is playing out the comedy of "much ado about nothing," would it were "a midsummer night's dream," or even "love's labour lost"—anything rather than purposeless, profligate, fruitless discussion. Yet Mr. Disraeli would keep us sitting as far on in the season as usual—that is, till about the middle of August—to what desirable end we cannot divine. And Ministers, too, notwithstanding day-sittings, will, unless they manage much better than they have done, necessitate the protraction of the Session beyond Summertime.

The debate on the Ballot, on Tuesday se'nnight, was a welcome relief to the tedium of the last fortnight. It was really most interesting. The racy, humorous, but, withal, convincing speech of Mr. Berkeley—the flippant, and self-damaging reply of Lord Palmerston—humdrum served up with the sauce of insolence—the hard hits of Mr. Bright telling as they did, right home—and the closely-woven logic of Sir William Molesworth, in which the keenest perception could discover no flaw—gave a character of earnestness and ability to the discussion, which has, of late, been sadly absent from the proceedings of the House. It was curious to witness one Cabinet Minister put down by another—how the severe reasoning and honest out-spokenness of the President of the Board of Works, caught the jaunty Home Secretary's rhodomontade by the throat, and fairly throttled it. The old diplomatist's sprightliness could not conceal from the House the worthlessness of his argument. Like a smart veil over an ugly face, it did but attract notice to what it was meant to cover. But when Sir William walked up to his colleague, and exposed the absurdities of which he had been guilty, it was like a policeman lifting up that veil, and rendering still more conspicuous the uncomeliness and dirt which took refuge behind it. Lord Palmerston is a favourite with the House, because he always contrives to amuse it, and is able, when the occasion serves, to captivate its sympathies. But there are some things which even the noble lord's playful fancy cannot make agreeable—just as a dunghill is not the less a dunghill when shone upon by the morning sun. Bribery and intimidation at elections

* A correspondent is good enough to point out a slip of the pen in our article last week on the Ministerial changes—where we speak of Sir J. Pakington as succeeding Sir George Grey in the office of Home Secretary: it should have been Mr. Walpole. If our correspondent is "a constant reader" also, he will, however, scarcely expect us to agree with his estimate of either Sir George or his cousin, the Earl.

have become so disgusting that most of the objections to the Vote by Ballot dwindle into insignificance in presence of them. Hence, secret voting annually gains adherents, and its opponents annually grow less and less determined. The division indicated considerable relative progress.

Of less general interest, but possessing some attractions for us, not for what they are in themselves, but for what they indicate, are the conversations, upon ecclesiastical or semi-ecclesiastical topics which have taken place during the week—such, for instance, as occurred upon the withdrawal on Wednesday last of Mr. Packe's Church-rate Bill, on the question of Gaol Chaplains, in Committee of Supply, and on incidental points in the Oxford University Bill. To those who remember how recently the Voluntary Principle, and the Protestant Dissenters, were wont to be referred to slightly, if not contemptuously, in the House of Commons, it is some gratification to mark the change of temper which has come over all parties in reference to such subjects. This day's debate will probably display this more conspicuously—and the discussion, fixed for to-morrow night, on the admission of Dissenters to the University of Oxford, will, no doubt, render it still more striking. But, even the last week has not been without its novel "signs of the times." It is something that the Government, instead of contriving as they might have done, to bring on the debate on the Abolition of University tests, at the far-end of a Committee, when the House is too fatigued to listen to anything on any subject, has appointed a special evening for the purpose, and thus given us the opportunity of summoning all our friends, and of having a fair stand-up fight on the question. It is significant when a Cabinet Minister like Mr. Sidney Herbert, whilst deprecating the application of the Voluntary principle to the religious instruction given in our galls, should take occasion to pronounce a glowing eulogium on the triumphs of that principle, and to ascribe the present increased strength of the Church of England to her recent recognition of it. Even the Home Secretary himself admits, that in regard to men not under constraint, the question of a legal or a voluntary payment of the clergy, is a fair subject of debate. All seem to be sensible that the State Church question is fast ripening for legislative consideration—and if no great interest has been exhibited in Mr. Serjeant Shee's motion in regard to the Irish Church, it has resulted rather from the conviction that it means nothing, or that if it did, it has been brought forward at a time, and in a form, which effectually precludes hope of settlement, than from any indifference to the question itself. It is certain that the House of Commons will not consent to a division of Church revenues among the leading ecclesiastical bodies in Ireland—and a proposition tending to that result was not likely to gain attention when made, after a long sitting, at eleven o'clock at night.

We have spent three more evenings on the Oxford University Bill, which, during the Whitsun recess, underwent a complete transformation. In relation to the Colleges, it is now merely an enabling bill—dependent for its vitality and action upon the College authorities themselves. Division after division has been taken to minimise the reforming energy of the measure, even as it stood after Ministers had deprived it of its compulsory character, and in one important change, proposed by Mr. Roundell Palmer, the resistance of Ministers was overborne by a majority of fifty-eight. Well might Mr. Blackett ascribe the virtual nullification of the measure to the timid policy of the Cabinet. He was right, and he was courageous as well as right. It required some pluck to stand up and tell Lord John that he had no right to rely upon the zealous assistance of supporters whose just claims he had set aside, and that to propose a reform without taking care to satisfy reformers, was the sure way to provoke an opposition without means to meet and overcome it. Ministers are themselves pretty evidently disappointed with the result—and hence, perhaps, they will not be much grieved to see the clause for the abolition of tests carried. For, after all, the one thing that Oxford needs is, not so much a change of her educational machinery, as an infusion into her veins of fresh blood. She has sunk into an atrophy. She gets from bad to worse. Competition—internal emulation—a more vigorous action of the heart—alone can save her. In order to this, her monopoly must be destroyed, and her sons must have new rivals to contend with. This she will never have whilst her religious tests are maintained. The true method, therefore, of reforming Oxford, is by giving free admission to Dissenters. Their presence would stimulate her into healthy activity. Their enforced absence will hasten her decay, spite of the most careful reconstruction of her educational organisation.

PALMERSTON'S "NONSENSE" ON THE BALLOT.

EVEN an annual debate may possess something of interest, apart from its value as a test of the

growth of opinion. By virtue of special circumstances—such as the conspicuous feebleness of opposition, or the unwonted ability of advocacy—it may give a visible impulse to that usually slow and secluded process.

We expect this result from the recent night of speech-making on the ballot, because we discover in it these characteristics. With five constituencies in a state of suspension, besides four lately extinguished—all for the sins which the ballot is alleged to cure—the question of Tuesday se'night was an eminently practical one; as relevant to the circumstances of the country as was Mr. Villiers' annual corn-law-repeal motion in 1842. The objections to the proposition in hand were so flagrantly feeble that their employment was a service only less valuable than their open recantation. And the speeches for the motion were some of them so exhaustive in argument, others so sagacious and spirited in counsel, that they furnish at once weapons and tactics to a party which seldom combines these two essentials of warfare.

The leader of the opposition, rising from the Treasury bench, characterised the arguments for the ballot as "nonsense." Perhaps even the audacious Palmerston would have abstained from such sententious characterization, had he known that a Cabinet colleague was prepared with an expansion of the argument over four or five columns of the *Times*, and was about to speak in the name of a "dozen members of the Government." The rhetorical necessities of Sir William Molesworth do not permit impromptu reply—or we might have been spared the trouble of re-perusing Lord Palmerston's speech, in search of the reasons that must have justified to himself the violation of coalition etiquette. The analysis discovers only an epithet and a couple of sophisms. The epithet is so much the worse for constant wear, that the wits of the vivacious Viscount must have been wandering in quest of reasons for its appliance when he condescended to its use. Secret voting is "un-English," forsooth! That which is observed, under oath, in the Privy Council and the Cabinet—that which is practised without exception at the Clubs—is "out of harmony with the genius of the British Constitution." The epithet, pointless as it is, might have fallen unnoticed as uncheered, but for the attempt at definition that followed. In the definition lurks sophism number one. "According to the spirit of the British Constitution," we are told, "every man clothed with a public right, involving a duty, is bound to exercise it openly." If this proposition were more than partially true, the Secretary of State might not give his Sovereign private advice—still less carry on secret correspondence with the representatives of a foreign power; of which latter practice Lord Palmerston is the obstinate advocate. That the suffrage is not a trust, in the sense of delegated power—no more a trust than one's intellect or property—Sir William Molesworth most conclusively showed; arguing on the general objection. But even if it were a trust, there would be many more reasons why it should be discharged in secret than openly, so long as bribery and intimidation may assail the virtue of the trustee. If we confide any duty to another man, we are bound to afford him reasonable facility for its faithful discharge. When we send money by a messenger, we do not compel him to walk unarmed, chinking the money as he goes, through districts notorious for incitements to dishonesty or assaults upon the defenceless. On the contrary, we enjoin secrecy and precaution.

So much for one specimen of Lord Palmerston's "nonsense." In his argument on the morality of the ballot, he attempts to place its advocates in a dilemma—an attempt made years since by Sidney Smith, with an ill success disastrous to his fame even as a wit. If a promised vote be given according to promise, where is the use of the ballot? If the promise be broken in the dark, how dastard and demoralising is the ballot? Such is the alternative by which our logic is to be torn asunder! We might reply, with the *Examiner*, that a promise to do wrong is better broken than kept; but we prefer to point out that the charm of the ballot-box is in its preventive property. Unjust influence would not be exerted if it could not be made effectual. A promise is never asked under a threat, when the evasion of the promise is easy. A price is never given for an article the non-delivery of which cannot even be ascertained. In shielding the elector, therefore, you disarm his assailant. The "nonsense" consists in supposing that any man would be fool enough to risk his influence or his gold for an object it is impossible to secure. Corrupt motives may prevail with the ballot as without it, in the case of individual electors; the expectation of place prompting a vote at the hustings as it sometimes prompts a vote in the Commons;—but the wholesale exertion of corrupt influence would be rendered impossible by the ballot, because its success would be rendered uncertain in proportion to its success—the greater number threatened or bribed, the greater the number whose resentment or dishonesty would have to be feared.

In fine contrast with Lord Palmerston's feeble

ridicule and flimsy sophistry, are Mr. Bright's reasonings and instigations. By far the most useful part of his speech was that in which he showed how the ballot may be won. To triumph over the logic of dispirited opponents is an easy but an uncongenial and nearly useless task. The ballot has enow of supporters in the House of Commons to obtain it, had they but the needful sagacity or resolution. In the former quality, indeed, not the least intelligent of Ministerial supporters can be so deficient as not to see that the Government waits only for enough of coercion to justify them to their own prejudices in yielding. The simultaneous desertion from their side of the two hundred members who have heretofore voted with Mr. Berkeley, would produce immediate surrender. No one doubts this. There is nothing in the antecedents of any member of the Cabinet to justify the doubt, but everything to encourage the belief. Twenty years ago, Lord John Russell conditionally accepted the ballot—a year and a half ago, Sir James Graham all but acceded to it. Had the re-election of every Cabinet Minister been opposed till this conditional concession became absolute, we may be sure the reins would not have been thrown back to Earl Derby. We predicted at the time, that contentment with the admission of Molesworth and Osborne to the Ministry, leaving the ballot "an open question," would have the effect of retarding its settlement. The conversion of a majority into a minority justifies the warning, and renders criminal further dalliance. Now that the Aberdeen Cabinet is wearing itself to death, the opportunity for closing the question is so obvious and inviting, that to disregard it will be to prove there is a sense in which argument for the ballot is "all nonsense"—because the earnestness of its advocates, *non est*.

FRIENDSHIP WITHOUT FEASTING, AND AMITY WITHOUT ALLIANCE.

THE almost incessant wars of the Roman Republic are attributed in great part to the anxiety of every consul to signalize his year of office. A similar anxiety seems to agitate the bosom of every successive Lord Mayor of London—with the pleasing difference that the Mansion House Coriolanus is distinguished rather for feasting than fighting.

Jilted in favour of the Reform Club by the noble and gallant personages whom he designed to entertain on the eve of their embarkation for the wars, it has entered into the head of Lord Mayor Sidney, or some of his counsellors, to get up a celebration of the present Anglo-French alliance. The project has been broached at a "numerous and highly influential meeting" at the Mansion House; and, though not a single man of political or literary eminence appeared, it was unanimously adopted, and the co-operation of other corporations invited. It has received the lofty title of a "National Festival,"—an imposing list of committee-men has been put forth,—and subscriptions will be received by any banker in town or country, for transmission to the safe trusteeship of Lord John Russell and the Baron Rothschild. We are unable to discover in what the Festival will consist, except the entertainment at sundry dinners of distinguished Frenchmen connected with "legislation, science, commerce, and agriculture."

Apart from the motive we have not thought it uncharitable to assign to the prime movers in this project, the project itself excites our curiosity, amusement, and dislike. In the first place, we beg to ask, is it amity or alliance with France these gentlemen so highly appreciate that, in a period of war taxation, we must be laid under voluntary contribution for its celebration? There is a difference as well as a distinction between the two things—broad enough, we hope, for perception by the aldermanic intellect. "Amity with all nations, alliance with none," was the motto bequeathed by Washington for the guidance of the republic he erected. Englishmen would do well to heed it, instead of exulting that their armies are now encamped beside those of the nation against whom they were lately arming in equally unreasonable haste. In the second place, is it by accident or design that "literature" is omitted from the number of professions in the persons of whose distinguished members it is intended to do honour to France? Perhaps the pen that drew up the ludicrously tautological resolution to which we refer, was checked by the recollection that the most eminent of French literati are under the ban of the ruler described by Mr. Laing, at the Crystal Palace dinner on Saturday, as that "remarkable man" whose elevation to power was "a merciful interposition of Providence." The Mansion House Committee may remember that "the legislation and science" of France, in addition, have also been denuded of their brightest ornaments by the Government which has substituted "alliance" for the "amity" we enjoyed with the France of Lamartine—an amity that owed nothing to the sympathy of City circles. We need not vindicate

our own anxiety for "the cultivation of peaceful relations with the French nation;" and we acknowledge the difficulty of discriminating between the nation and its *de facto* Government. But while we regard the proposed "festival" as superfluous for the object professed as would be the heating of a harvest-field by steam-pipes,—we distrust even its harmlessness. The lords and gentlemen,—least of all the Lord Mayors—who put themselves forward on these occasions, are no more the truthful exponents of the national peace sentiment, than the present war of the national war sentiment. The people of England highly prize the friendship of other peoples—Mansion-house orators prize the alliance that is fruitful in trade-jobs and Elysée balls, knighthoods at home and fêtes abroad; and in their pursuit of these cosmopolitan objects, make this nation fawn upon the objects of its honest detestation. We may be sure that such newspapers as our faithful allies permit to circulate among their loyal subjects, reproduce these eulogies; with what result to our character or to continental sentiment, our uninvited guests could tell. Mr. Laing (as his offence was double, so must be our censure) may personally regard Francis Joseph as "gallant," "honourable," and "chivalrous;" but we all know the opinion on that point of the millions on whom the Crystal Palace relies for success, and we may conjecture with what feeling it would be heard by some of the very artists to whose Italian taste that structure owes its best adornments. Until the Corporation of London can speak for the metropolis at large, or the people, as a whole, have found means of making themselves understood, such demonstrations as that proposed are likely to estrange rather than unite; and are, at all events, very respectful neither to our countrymen nor to our guests.

MASSACHUSETTS TO THE RESCUE!

WITH the Nebraska Bill, American concession to the slave spirit of the North is at an end. Compromise has run its course, the sense of humiliation deepening at every step, and may yet prove to have conducted to revolution. The decisive contest between the lust of property in human beings and the sense of right in heaven and earth,—the crisis foreseen from the hour of the very act by which it was sought to avert it,—seems to be at the door. Boston has once more given the signal for a struggle that may not terminate but in the purification or the destruction of the Federal Union.

On the night of Wednesday, May the 24th, a negro named Burns was putting up the shutters of his employer's store, in Brattle-street, Boston, when he was set upon by seven men, calling themselves peace officers, and taken to the Court House on a charge of larceny. Arrived there, he was confronted with his former master, and so learned that the larceny was the theft of himself. Richard Dana, Jun.,—whose name is not unknown to English ears,—learned the circumstance by accident early the next morning, obtained a postponement of the examination before Judge Loring, the States Commissioner, and communicated with his Abolitionist friends. A committee of vigilance instantly set in motion the obstructive machinery of law, and appealed to the moral sense of the people. That evening (they do things "spry" in New England) Faneuil Hall was crowded by a meeting which adopted the following resolutions:—

Resolved,—That the perfidious seizure of Anthony Burns, in this city, on Wednesday evening last, on the lying pretence of having committed a crime against the laws of this state—his imprisonment as an alleged fugitive slave in the Court-house, under guard of certain slave-catching ruffians—and his contemplated trial as a piece of property to-morrow morning—are outrages never to be sanctioned or tamely submitted to.

Resolved,—That, leaving every man to determine for himself the mode of resistance, we are united in the glorious sentiment of our revolutionary fathers—"Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God."

Resolved,—That as the South has decreed, in the late passage of the Nebraska Bill, that no faith is to be kept with freedom, so, in the name of the living God, and on the part of the North, we declare that henceforth and for ever no compromises should be made with slavery.

A crowd out of doors had already "determined for themselves on the mode of resistance;" and, when joined by the multitude issuing from Faneuil Hall, proceeded to attack the Court House, where Burns was confined. Walls, doors, and windows, were assailed, and an entrance forced—but the States Marshal repulsed the invaders by his force of special officers, one of whom was unfortunately shot. The next morning—Friday—artillery and infantry were posted in and about the building, for its protection against the immense crowd that beleaguered it; the Irish companies having offered to do this duty. The morning was consumed in the speeches of counsel, and an adjournment to Monday obtained. On the Saturday morning, the following document was despatched through the New England States:—

"TO THE YEOMANRY OF NEW ENGLAND."

"Countrymen and Brothers,—The Vigilance Committee of Boston inform you that the mock-trial of the poor fugitive slave has been further postponed to Monday at 11 a.m.

"You are requested therefore to come down and lend the moral weight of your presence, and the aid of your counsel, to the friends of justice and humanity in the city.

Come down sons of the Puritans! forever if the poor victim is to be carried off by the brute force of arms, and delivered over to slavery, you should at least be present to witness the sacrifice, and you should follow him in sad procession with your tears and prayers, and then go home and take such action as your manhood and your patriotism may suggest.

"Come, then, by the early trains on Monday, and rally in Court-square. Come with courage and resolution in your hearts; but this time, with only such arms as God gave you!"

On that Saturday night, a survey was made by the pro-slavery mob of the residences of the leading abolitionists, with the view of pulling them down; but the mayor, being informed in time, provided a sufficient guard. On Sunday, a paper was found in every pulpit, desiring, in the name of Anthony Burns, the prayers of the congregation in behalf of one in sore distress. Every clergyman in the city preached his own view of the matter; and the discourse of the celebrated Theodore Parker, in a hall which holds many thousands, and which was crammed in every available space, concluded with this exciting passage:—

"Judge Loring knew that he was stealing a man, born with the same right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as himself. He knew the slaveholders had no more right to Anthony Burns than to his own daughter. He knew the consequences of stealing a man in Boston. He knew that there are men in Boston who have not yet conquered their prejudices—men who respect the higher law of God. He knew there would be a meeting in Faneuil Hall—gatherings in the street. He knew there would be violence. Edward Greeley Loring, Judge of Probate for the county of Suffolk, in the State of Massachusetts, Fugitive Slave bill Commissioner of the United States, before the citizens of Boston, on Ascension Sunday, assembled to worship God, I charge you with the death of that man who was murdered on last Friday night. He was your fellow servant in kidnapping. He died at your hand. You fired the shot which makes his wife a widow, his child an orphan. I charge you with the peril of twelve men, arrested for murder and on trial for their lives; I charge you with filling the Court-house with one hundred and eighty-four hired ruffians of the United States, and alarming not only this city for her liberties that are in peril, but stirring up the whole Commonwealth of Massachusetts with indignation, which no man knows how to stop—which no man can stop. You have done it all."

On Monday, public feeling was further excited by the fact that Burns' owner had refused to take the 1,200 dollars for which he had previously offered to give up his claim, and which had been raised by subscription. The "yeomanry" came in great numbers, as requested,—but the spectacle they were to arrest or to contemplate was not there till the following Friday. By that time, the resources of the prisoner's lawyers were exhausted; and the jury having found that Burns was the property of his claimant—the judge ruling that an important error as to the day of his escape did not affect the question—poor Burns was ordered to be delivered up. The Mayor issued a proclamation that the troops were armed with full power to sustain the law. He refused permission to have the bells of the city tolled; but from all the neighbouring steeples the iron voice of grief and humiliation was uttered; and the national flag was craped. At noon-day, the negro was taken to the water's edge, through a crowd of 20,000 people, in the middle of a square of the marshal's officers, armed with sabres and revolvers; and supported by infantry artillery, dragoons, and lancers. Loaded cannon were posted in the street. The order to fire was actually given to one company, and its execution prevented by the colonel at the risk of his life. And so, amid hisses and cries of shame—all too weak to express the burning grief and indignation of the citizens thus humiliated—Anthony Burns was taken back to Virginia.

"If any one," says "A Republican" writing in the *Daily News*,—"from the Southern planter to the English country justice, supposes that excitement like this can come to nothing, only let him wait and see. Since society began, a public sentiment like this (grounded too on a constitutional basis) has never been long in securing its due prevalence; and slavery must be regarded as virtually abolished in the American Union—as an union—however long it may survive as a state institution." We believe it; and we heartily pray that the sons of the Pilgrim Fathers and of the Founders of the Republic, may, in this solemn crisis of their country's history, not let go the honour of accomplishing the deliverance of New England from a bondage more ignominious by far than that of Prelacy or Kingship—because a bondage that is itself a crime.

Miscellaneous News.

The number of licensed cabs in London has increased from 3,326 in 1853 to 3,421 in 1851.

The Board of Ordnance have purchased 2,000 revolving pistols from Colonel Colt, for the use of the public service.

Yesterday being the anniversary of her Majesty Queen Victoria's accession to the throne, was observed with the usual demonstrations of loyalty.

A gentleman died at Gravesend from an ulcerated throat; he was attended during his illness by his nieces, Mrs. Seabrooke and Miss Luscombe; these ladies

incautiously allowed some of the discharge from the throat to enter slight incisions on their hands; inflammation and mortification ensued, and both met with an untimely death.

An electric cable lost in the Irish channel off Portpatrick a year ago has been recovered by Captain Hendey, in the *Monarch* steamer. It is sixteen miles long, and weighs 100 tons.

It was expected that the brevet would have appeared in last night's *Gazette*, and have included all ranks of 1846 except captains, who are to be those of 1843. It has, however, been postponed to Friday.

The *Liverpool Albion*, of Monday, announces that M. Kossuth has accepted an invitation to attend a public meeting to be held at the Royal Amphitheatre in about three weeks.

In the week that ended last Saturday the number of deaths registered in London was 1,085, being about 100 above the average, but 110 less than the preceding week. Last week the births of 824 boys and 828 girls, in all 1,652 children, were registered.

Last year there were only thirty cases of corporal punishment in the British army. In most instances the full amount of fifty lashes was administered. The offences consisted of theft, insubordination, violence to superior officers, and similar grave crimes.

A great quantity of grass has already been cut in various parts of Devonshire and other western counties, and the harvest, on the whole, is likely to be good. The price of hay at the present is somewhat high, and a vast quantity has been purchased in Devonshire for the cavalry engaged in the East.

In turning over the ancient borough documents of Bridgewater lately, a charter granted by Queen Elizabeth was discovered conferring privileges on the port, one of which is exemption from port and harbour dues in all ports except London. Of course if this ancient charter can be now put in force it will be a great advantage to the Bridgewater shipowners.

According to the *Limerick Herald* a number of the "friends of the Pope" assembled together a few days ago, and deliberately and leisurely went round several of the houses in that neighbourhood, collected all the Bibles and Testaments on which they could lay their hands, took them to the immediate vicinity of the Police Barrack, tore them, and publicly burned them!

The triennial Godiva procession at Coventry, took place on the 19th with the utmost *clat*. It had been previously announced that the Lady Godiva should appear in robes in place of the tight dress and skirt as heretofore. So many, however, were in favour of the original costume, that a second lady was prevailed upon to attend from the Royal Academy so attired, and the most rapturous applause greeted her in all directions.

Though the increase in the amount of shipping entering Liverpool since the commencement of this century has been immense, it appears that the increase at Belfast has been comparatively greater. In 1800, 4,746 vessels, of 450,060 tons, entered Liverpool; in 1853 these totals had increased to 83,491 vessels and 15,076,490 tons: 777 vessels, of 55,268 tons, entered Belfast in 1800; but in 1853 these numbers were swelled to 20,438 vessels and 2,727,712 tons.

At the last meeting of the Oxford Town-council the Mayor read a memorial, which he had received from the parishioners of St. Martin's, assembled in vestry on Holy Thursday, protesting against the opening of the Public Reading Room on Sundays. A discussion ensued, extending over several hours, and ultimately a resolution, "that the memorial is mischievous and uncalled for," was carried by 12 votes to 11.

"The Derbyshire gold-diggings" are still spoken of in the papers. They are in the High Peak district. The gold is found in toadstone which understratifies the limestone. The finding of this toadstone left no doubt on the minds of the discoverers that their first duty was to have it assayed. This was done, and the assay from the silver works, as per certificate, is 26 ounces of silver, and from Professors Anstey and Henry one ounce-and-a-half of gold per ton. A company has been formed. There are 504 shares in the mine, the greatest shareholder being Mr. Burgoyne. The Crown is the owner, and arrangements are being concluded in respect to the dues before mining operations are further carried out.

A child having died under an operation in the Royal Free Hospital, and the friends being dissatisfied, a coroner's jury was empanelled; but negotiations having taken place, it has been said, accompanied with the tender of money, the inquest was not held. In consequence of information received at the Home-office, Lord Palmerston has ordered the body to be disinterred. On Saturday a jury assembled, and after the solicitor for the parents had objected to several jurymen connected with the Hospital, the inquest was adjourned. Yesterday the inquiry was resumed, and after the examination of various witnesses adjourned for a week.

It is proposed to have a national festival in celebration of the union between England and France. The Lord Mayor presided at a meeting to promote the project on Wednesday last, when resolutions in its favour were unanimously adopted. Amongst the company present were Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire, Viscount Ebrington, M.P., W. Tite, Esq., F.R.S., Sir J. Paxton, the Mayor of Leeds, H. Brown, Esq., M.P., and B. Oliveira, Esq., M.P. It was resolved to open a subscription forthwith. It is proposed that some of the most distinguished men connected with the legislation, science, commerce, and agriculture of France should be invited to visit this country, "with the view of demonstrating to the world the sincerity of the alliance now happily subsisting between the two nations—an alliance, the continuance of which is eminently calculated to promote in all countries the permanency of peace, and its consequent blessings—order, prosperity, and happiness."

THE WAR.

OPERATIONS ON THE DANUBE.

The backward movements of the Russian troops in Moldavia is confirmed, and it is considered certain that Prince Paskiewitch would be at Jassy with his staff on the 13th instant. The German journals can only explain the movement either as a preparation for the abandonment of the Principalities or a menace to Austria. The line of the Sereth connects the Russians under Paskiewitch with Panjutine's troops on the Austrian frontier. Letters from Jassy state that Baron de Budberg was installed on the 23rd of May as Civil Governor of that place. He commenced his administration by having three persons arrested for not having obeyed the recent orders given by the military authorities. He also issued a proclamation, declaring that the next half-year's contribution for the war was to be paid by anticipation before the 5th of June.

It is confidently stated that large reinforcements are still crossing the Pruth to strengthen the invading army in Moldavia.

The Emperor Nicholas is shortly expected at Kiew.

Letters from Orsova state that the Ottomans were on the 8th withdrawing from Lesser Wallachia, being ordered to Rutchuk, where Said Pasha is concentrating 40,000 men, to break through the Russian lines at Turtukai, for the relief of Silistria.

A letter from Widdin, dated June 5, says:—"Yesterday the four pieces of cannon, taken from the Russians at Slatina, arrived here. They were taken with great ceremony, in the midst of a vast concourse of spectators, to the citadel, whence they are to be conveyed to Shumla. Thirty or forty Russian prisoners, and as many wounded, now at Kalafat, are to be transferred to-morrow to Widdin."

The Russians, in leaving Lesser Wallachia, subjected it to pillage. They took possession of the archives and the public money. They also despoiled the convents and the churches of all their valuable ornaments. The commander of the Ottoman troops, Halim Pasha, has reorganised the administrative service at Krajova.

It is yet uncertain whether the siege of Silistria has been raised, but all accounts agree in describing the horrible carnage amongst the Russians, and the desperate bravery of the Turks. On the 13th three mines were sprung before Silistria, without doing any damage to the walls. The Russian storming columns were prepared to mount the expected breach, but were attacked on three sides by the Turks. A fearful slaughter took place, and the Russians fled in terrible disorder. It was thought that some troops which had arrived from Shumla to the relief of the fortress had taken part in the action. The Russians were employed on the 14th and 15th in removing their dead. Three Russian generals were severely wounded, and all the Russian siege works totally destroyed. General Schilders was dangerously wounded, and transported to Kalarasch. Marshal Paskiewitch, while making a reconnaissance before Silistria on the 9th, was also wounded by a Turkish battery. He had ordered himself to be carried to Jassy, and had given over the supreme command of the army to Prince Gortschakoff. The death of Mussa Pasha is contradicted from Vienna, whence it was announced.

Official accounts of the siege of Silistria up to the 20th of May, had been received from Mussa Pasha himself. He states that the assaults had continued day and night at various intervals for a fortnight, "but they were compelled to retire in consequence of the vigorous resistance of the Ottoman troops." In the attack on the 29th of May, "the assailants experienced such a severe loss that their dead filled the ditches of the redoubts and covered the esplanade of the fortifications. In this affair the Turks had fifty killed and the same number wounded; the Russians had not less than 1,500 killed, and, without doubt, a much greater number wounded." The correspondent of the *Times* in Silistria, says that the Turkish guns were admirably worked:—

Their mortar practice was excellent, most of the shells bursting in or immediately over the Russian batteries. The practice of the enemy was very slovenly, and on the whole indifferent, as our list of casualties only shows one chasseur and a horse killed, a peasant and a child in the town wounded, and a trading shallop on the bank of the river destroyed. As an instance of the carelessness of the Russian artillery, we found an 8-inch shell fired by them with the fuse uncapped, and I was told this was by no means a rare occurrence.

THE ALLIES AT VARNA AND CONSTANTINOPLE.

Twenty thousand French troops had arrived at Varna on the 1st instant, and 8,000 English were encamped in a strong position six leagues distant from the town. The advanced guard of the British marched on the 4th in the direction of Silistria, and was to be followed by another body in thirty-six hours. The weather was fearfully hot, and the troops sadly in want of fresh provisions. Generals Canrobert and Scarlett had reached Varna. The head-quarters of the allied forces were to be transferred to Delbakoi, and it was believed that a general battle would shortly be fought in the plain of Trajan, or in the neighbourhood of Silistria.

On the 1st a division of French troops was expected at Adrianople, from Gallipoli and Rodosto. After taking twenty-four hours' rest, it was to march for the Danube.

Before the troops had all departed from Scutari, there was a review for the gratification of the Sultan; and it is remarked that the spectacle seemed to rouse him from the melancholy which is his common characteristic. He laughed and chatted with the chief officers, and seemed both astonished and delighted. Lord Cardigan and his regiment of Lancers were special objects of his admiration. On that occasion a dervish stepped up and denounced the Sultan as a

Giaour Padishah: he was quickly seized and dragged away.

Colonel Beatson, who had a command in the Nizam's irregular cavalry in India, has arrived at Constantinople. He is to receive a command of 4,000 Bashibazouks, and will no doubt do all that is possible to turn them into good soldiers.

A Prussian officer sends an account of a visit he paid to the quarters of the 17th Lancers, at Kuleli, near Scutari. His letter is full of the highest praise both of the horses and the men. The horses seem to have made a deep impression on him. He also inspected the heavy artillery; and the chief faults he finds are, that the guns are rather over-horsed, and that the men do not wear frock-coats! He predicts, from his knowledge of the Russian cavalry and artillery, that they will have no chance against our soldiers in the field.

The special correspondent of the *Daily News* for Asia, on his journey to Trebizond, called at Gallipoli and Scutari. In the latter place this gentleman made vain endeavours to see two of the commanding officers, and obtain an order for the camp. He was treated with a superciliousness and rudeness which made him doubt whether he was in an English camp, and the answer, "We will have no correspondents!" was one befitting the head-quarters of Prince Paskiewitch.

The *Moniteur* notices the temporary retirement of Redschid Pasha from his post as Foreign Minister of Turkey, and adds, that it is attributed to the state of his health and family affliction. Chekib Effendi now conducts the foreign department.

Lord Redcliffe has quite recovered his health.

THE BLACK SEA AND THE CIRCASSIANS.

The Russians are still in the possession of Anapa, Yenikale, and Kaffa, on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. The garrison of the first had of late erected new works of defence. It is to be bombarded by the ships of the line, as the guns of the steamers are not heavy enough to reach the Russian works.

It is said that the Circassians, after a severe engagement, have made themselves masters of the pass of Mosdok, and cut off the communications of the Russian army in Georgia. Schamyl has destroyed the Russian forts Anauer and Duschet. On these occasions the Russians had 1,400 killed, and Schamyl sent 1,000 men as prisoners into the mountains. The dreaded chief is now in an entrenched camp at a place called Muchran (between Gori and Tiflis). All the Caucasian tribes are moving. The Russian fort of Mzchet (close to Tiflis) is also invested. A number of Mingrelian tribes, who had hitherto remained faithful to Russia, had declared against her, and now made common cause with the Lieutenant of Schamyl.

The main body of the combined fleet is still in the neighbourhood of Varna. On the 2nd inst. the *Sidon* and *Inflexible* towed six Russian and Dutch vessels into Baljik, with stores and contraband articles, average £2,000 each. £12,000 will have to be divided between the two ships. They were intended for the Russian army on the Danube. All the magazines at Sulina had been burnt. The *Sidon* had arrived at Constantinople on the 3rd, with two prizes in tow, and nearly 200 Russian prisoners of war.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

There is now no doubt that a considerable body of insurgents, under Hadji Petros, did defeat with great slaughter a body of Turks whom they had hemmed in among the mountains of Thessaly, near Colabacca. The Turks lost five guns, two colours, some munitions of war, clothing and tents. Subsequently the Turks rallied, and, receiving reinforcements, assumed the offensive, when the Greek chief was completely defeated. It is believed that he will now respect the order of his Government, and return to Athens.

On the 22nd of May 2,000 insurgents were defeated by Achmet Pasha at Sikistria, in Epirus; part of the insurgents retired to Greece, the others into the mountains.

At Scutigaria, in the neighbourhood of Arta, on the 24th of May, the Turks made a fresh attack upon the insurgents. The Greeks were beaten with a loss of sixty killed, and a still greater number of wounded.

According to the *Moniteur*, the news from Greece continued satisfactory. Gardigiosi Grivas had arrived, and left again immediately for the waters of Thermia. His brother Theodore requested and obtained permission to come to Athens. Spiro-Milio is expected.

A letter from Vice-Admiral Le Barbier de Tinan to the French Minister of War states, that on the 4th an English regiment of 1,000 men landed at the Piræus, and were assisted in that object both by French and Austrians. Their reception "was cordial, ardent, and even fraternal. It might be said that we have the same flag." "The English troops are temporarily under tents. Barracks are being formed for them." "The most complete tranquillity reigns at Athens, as well as in the Piræus. They are accustomed to our soldiers, so good, so gay, so easily provided for. The officers and sub-officers have received permission to go in the day-time to Athens. They are received with sympathy. The soldiers of the Greek army willingly fraternize with ours."

Addresses were being signed at Nauplia, the Piræus, Patras, Syra, Hydra, &c., in which the new Ministers were assured that the loyal proclamation they had adopted inspired every confidence to the country.

It is said that the Czar has addressed to King Otho a letter, in which he declares, that the representatives of Russia can only be accredited at independent courts, and he reserves to himself the right of taking measures serviceable for the future.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The position of Austria is becoming more clearly defined. She has two ships cruising on the coast, and her ships in the Piræus assisted the English to land. A convention has been concluded at Constantinople between Austria and the Porte relative to the Danubian

Principalities. Its principal conditions are said to be, that if Russia voluntarily retires, the Austrian troops will enter the Principalities, and form a defence between Russia and Turkey. If Russia refuses to retire, Austria will take such measures as may appear necessary to insure her doing so. The Austrian troops stationed in Bohemia and Moravia, to the number of 80,000 men, have been ordered to leave their present quarters, and to proceed forthwith to the south-eastern frontier of the empire. The Austrian Government is concentrating all its disposable forces at Vienna.

The King of Prussia has been reviewing his troops at Konigsberg. He left on the 16th for Gumbinnen, and other places eastward. His Majesty has been received in all parts with great enthusiasm. Nothing has been positively decided yet as to the mobilisation of part of the Prussian army. The Prince of Prussia has resumed all his military functions.

THE BALTIC.

It is stated that the squadron under the orders of Admiral Paraval Deschênes had effected its junction on the 13th with the English squadron. The *Basilisk*, which arrived at Dantzig from Baro-Sound, announces that she left twenty-nine English and eighteen French vessels of war at anchor there.

Admiral Plumridge has done some execution in the Gulf of Bothnia. On the 30th of May, three English steamers destroyed the ships, dockyards, and stores at Brahestadt: 350,000 roubles of damage was done. On the 31st, the steamers captured several vessels off Uleaborg; and on the 1st of June four steamers destroyed the ships, dockyards, and stores at Uleaborg: 400,000 roubles of damage was done on the occasion. The inhabitants were seized with panic and fled. In the dockyards, which were burned, were eight new ships of considerable size, and just ready to launch, four other ships at anchor in the harbour, the tar magazines with a stock of no less than 18,000 barrels of tar, and a considerable stock of pitch, besides immense stores of shipbuilding timber, deals, and spars. All private property was respected. The inhabitants of Ijo, a few miles further north, were expecting a similar visit. There were extensive stores there. In Grisslehamn and at Eckeröe it was rumoured on the 4th that Admiral Corry was preparing to bombard Bomarsund, in the Åland Islands, as the junction of the French and British fleets had already taken place.

The Swedish *Kalmar Post* contains the following account of the state of affairs in Finland by a trustworthy traveller, who has lived there for some years past:—

The commander of Sveaborg has been dismissed and sent to prison. He had not only stolen the copper roof of the fortress, but also guns and ammunition. Instead of balls, he had heaped together wooden balls painted black. He had destroyed two of the bastions, and planted orchards on them. The Czar, on a visit to Sveaborg, discovered his peccadillo. The whole south coast of Finland is fringed by a chain of Cossacks. Abo is protected by a couple of batteries and twelve gunboats. The Russian garrisons in the different places are in a dejected state of mind. Commerce and manufactures are stagnant. The price of food is exceedingly high. The peasants are forced to transport ammunition at the charge of the Government, and only get half-pay, which is given them in paper currency. Since the Czar's visit to Sveaborg repairs have been made in the fortress. Of late some regiments of the Imperial Guard have been sent to Finland. They are good-looking fellows, but much given to drink. The people of Finland begin to believe the Swedes are coming.

The *Gazette* of Friday contains despatches from Sir Charles Napier, announcing the blockade of the Russian ports, and giving details of the surrender of the Russian shipping at Libau.

The following extract from a letter describes the devastation caused by the attack of the steamers on Eckeröe:—"The whole of the forest under shelter of which, it will be remembered, several battalions of Russians were posted, is completely annihilated, the ground torn up, the rocks shivered to fragments, and the place strewn with cannon balls and fragments of exploded shells. No wonder if the report of the Russians losing 400 men should be confirmed."

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The camp at Boulogne is to consist of 48,000 men. The troops will assemble on the 15th of July.

It is reported to be the intention of Her Majesty's Government to take possession of Sitka, and all the other ports in the Pacific belonging to the Russians.

Official intelligence has been received that the Russian squadron on the China station has sailed to the north of Japan.

The number of troops embarked from France and Algiers for Turkey, up to the 10th of June, amounts to 72,000 men, and the embarkation of troops is still going on with great activity.

A letter from Beicoas, of the 4th, states that the *Cumberland* frigate, on board which was Commodore Stringham, the commander of the American station, had made a reconnaissance in the Black Sea.

From a communication, addressed by Messrs. Dunbar and Sons to the Duke of Newcastle, it appears that several vessels are believed to have been purchased for privateering at New York, some of which are now cruising, their object being not to take prizes, but to seize specie and destroy ships.

Captain Giffard, of the *Tiger*, was a great favourite of the Admiral. He was 60 years of age. His wife left Malta to join him on the day he died, and would hear of his death at Constantinople. She has two sons by her late husband. She was the daughter of the late Sir Benjamin Stephenson. Her widow's pension will be £90 per annum.

J. M. B., in the *Times*, vouches for the truth of a statement that the entrenching and pioneering tools issued to the army by the colonels are useless; and he challenges the Quartermaster-General to test the statement by putting the pioneers' tools of the Guards into the hands of any gas-fitter or pipe-layer near the

Horse Guards. They "would not stand fifteen minutes' real work;" and no agricultural labourer would take one of these tools as a gift, if he were forced to gain his week's wages by task or measure work.

The embarkation of troops at Toulon is going on with extraordinary activity. A few days ago the Emperor, in talking with some generals on the subject of the war, said, "It would be nothing extraordinary if next year I should find myself with my army (the camp of Boulogne) and the Swedish army at St. Petersburg."

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* says, a letter from the Black Sea, of the 24th, speaks of a great ferment in the Crimea, in consequence of a decree of the government ordering that all the starving men in the country, without exception, should go immediately to Sebastopol to be enrolled in the Russian navy. Many of these unfortunate men had fled with their families.

A "merchant" has made a fortune at Gallipoli, mainly through the pictorial talents of a French officer. The merchant, otherwise general dealer, wanted a sign for his store, and stated his case to a French captain. The captain thought over the case, and painted him a rough representation of a Zouave and a Highlander, each in full uniform, grasping each other's hand, and at the same time ringing their glasses together in true convivial style. The picture turned out to be a "hit;" everybody, British officers, Turkish pashas, Armenian merchants, all wanted to purchase it; but the lucky possessor of the picture refused to part with it, and has carried it with him as a trophy to Varna.

Foreign and Colonial News.

SUNDAY CLOSING MOVEMENT IN FRANCE.

The movement which has recently sprung up in France in favour of a better observance of the Lord's Day is rapidly extending throughout the length and breadth of the provinces. Scarcely a week passes without a pastoral letter on the subject from one Bishop or another, and sermons enforcing the obligation are general throughout the churches. At the parish church of St. Augustin in Paris, the Abbé Mullois, one of the chaplains to the Empress, makes it the subject of frequent appeals to his flock, and does not hesitate to attribute the premature old age of the poorer classes to habitual occupation without the intervention of a day of rest. The movement has even extended to the shopkeepers in the French metropolis, and an eye witness thus describes the impressions produced on his mind by what he saw on a recent Sunday:—

"Being desirous to know what visible progress had been made in the cessation from Sunday trading, I walked through those quarters of the town where such a change was reported to have chiefly taken place; these are, the wealthy commercial districts of the Rue de la Paix, the Rue Vivienne and Richelieu, the adjacent boulevards, &c.; here, where the shops only a week or two since were invariably and universally open until at least two o'clock, and where, previous to that hour, there was no perceptible difference between Sunday and other days, a very different state of things was manifested. The rich quarter had certainly set the example; in the Rue de la Paix, that great English thoroughfare, scarcely a shop was open; in the other streets it was evident that what had been formerly the rule was now only the exception. Sunday trading has, in a great degree, ceased in the Chaussée d'Antin, and it was only round the Bourse, as might be perhaps expected, that the commercial spirit seemed to be too strong as yet for the new feeling."

The *Times* of Thursday says:—"The movement in favour of the observance of the Sabbath is, according to all accounts, progressing favourably in Paris. A regular association has been formed to carry out that object, and has its president, vice-presidents, and corresponding secretaries. It appears that in the Rue Vivienne alone there are 57 shopkeepers who already close their establishments or who pledge themselves to do so the moment their neighbours agree to do the same; while in the Rue Richelieu there is also a respectable number who also close, or consent to do so on the same terms. In the Rue de la Paix the shops are also beginning to be shut up on the Sabbath. With the exception of the *Sticks*, the whole of the press is in favour of the movement, which it is to be hoped will soon extend to the other quarters of Paris."

PRUSSIA.

The Prince and Princess of Prussia, yielding, it is asserted, to the repeated and affectionate solicitations of the King, have visited Berlin to celebrate the anniversary of the death of their father. On the 7th June, the Royal party went to the mausoleum and heard the funeral service, annually performed over the tomb, upon which the King had placed a fresh wreath of evergreens.

The "silver wedding," or twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Prussia, was celebrated at Berlin on the 11th and 12th instant. In order not to give a pretext for popular demonstrations against the King, the Prince kept his court at Potsdam. The whole ministry, and the officers of the army, found their way to Potsdam and duly paid their respects. In the evening Berlin was illuminated. On the following day a serenade was performed early in the morning; then followed the presentation of addresses from the provinces and the committees for establishing a sort of Prussian Chelsea Hospital, from every municipal corporation in the kingdom, and from many others, including ladies; and all presented some gift—from the silver shield given by Berlin, to the carpet or embroidery given by the ladies. In the evening the Prince and the Princess walked in the Thiergarten, and were well received.

DENMARK.

To prevent the celebration of the anniversary of the constitution in the capital, the Danish Government has issued a number of vexatious police regula-

tions; and the people, on their side, determined not to break the law, made preparations for holding their festival six miles out of town. There, on the 5th of June, in a wood on the plain by the Royal hunting-box, called the Hermitage, they set up a pillar crowned by the Dannebrog, and an immense platform at its base, with a colossal bust of the King, made by the sculptor Bissen for the occasion, placed beside. The police regulations ceased at four o'clock; then the guilds, trades, students, unions, &c., arrived on the ground with their banners, forming a great crowd. Singing and speaking followed; the speaking came in tone, everything being sacrificed to a peaceful policy. Later in the evening the mass broke into separate groups, and there was a good deal of vigorous speaking. There was also dancing by the light of an illumination of coloured lamps. The English and French Ministers were present.

Every mail brings new intelligence of meetings in celebration of the constitution of Denmark having been held all over the country. Everywhere order and cheerfulness have prevailed. Not a single instance is quoted of any disturbance or disorder having taken place.

AMERICA.

The President has issued a proclamation, which, reciting that information has been received that certain citizens of the United States are organising an expedition to invade Cuba, declares that such expedition would be an infraction of the law of the United States and a violation of treaties; warns all persons that those who are unmindful of the honour of their country's flag will be prosecuted; and states that full powers have been given to the officers of the United States for the purpose of preserving peace and maintaining authority.

Official despatches from Mr. Soule state that, in addition to the remission of the fine on the *Black Warrior*, the Spanish Government accords to steamers of that line all the privileges and exemptions of British mail steamers.

The state department at Washington has received despatches from Mr. Greig, the United States consul at Honolulu, to the effect that the King of the Sandwich Islands had renewed the application to be annexed to the United States, either as a territory or a state.

According to the Western journals the emigration of slaveholders to Nebraska was very extensive.

According to advices from Texas, the Indians continued to massacre travellers without mercy.

It is stated from Washington that the fishing treaty between England and the United States is nearly completed. All the points are, in fact, essentially agreed upon. Lord Elgin will not leave Washington till the treaty is signed, which will require not only the ratification of the Senate, but a corresponding act of the House of representatives. The United States admit, duty free, coal, lumber, and grindstones, over which much discussion has taken place.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The result of the whole of the elections for the Belgian Chamber of Representatives is the gain of one vote by the Clerical over the Liberal party.

Negotiations are understood to be in progress for a new Prussian loan. The rate of interest will be 4½ per cent., and it is thought the amount may be for as much as \$6,000,000.

M. Alexandre Dumas' luxurious fancy villa at St. Germain, almost as well known as his favourite work after which it was named—*Monte Cristo*—which cost him 450,000fr., has just been sold for 31,000fr.!

The cholera has broken out with great intensity at Dijon and its neighbourhood. In one small village of only 200 souls there have been eighty cases within a few days, out of which there are fifteen deaths.

Speculators have managed to raise the price of flour in the Paris market on the strength of sinister rumours as to the bad prospects of the harvest; but accounts from all parts of the country say that the produce is likely to exceed that of a good ordinary year.

Mrs. Emily Judson, widow of the late Adoniram Judson, missionary to Burmah, and popularly known in the literary world as "Fanny Forester," died at her residence in Hamilton, Madison county, New York, after a lingering illness, on the 1st inst., aged about forty years.

A fugitive slave, in the employ of Clark and Pond, millers, at Fulton, New York, sent a barrel of specimen flower to Queen Victoria. A few days since, he received an autograph letter from the Queen, acknowledging the receipt of the flour, and enclosing 300 dollars in return.—*American paper.*

The first railway in Brazil was opened on the 30th April; the Emperor and Empress being present at the inauguration. Senhor de Souza, the managing director, was created Barao de Maria, and Mr. William Bragge, an Englishman, the chief engineer, was decorated with the Imperial order of the Rose.

Accounts from San Salvador of the 26th of April, ten days after the earthquake, state that the number of bodies thus far dug out was 308, but this is supposed to be only a small portion of the total killed. Measures were to be immediately taken for the selection of a better site for the reconstruction of the city.

Disastrous accounts of the state of the vines come from Bordeaux. Under the most favourable circumstances, not more wine is expected than was made last year, which was not above a third of an average year. A succession of deficient years, with wines of bad quality, is proving ruinous in their effect upon the cultivators.

M. Victor Hugo has been offered £5,000 sterling for a new philosophical novel just completed, entitled "Les Misérables." The offer has been made, it is said, by a Paris publisher, the work being ostensibly so free from any political leaven that no opposition to its publication on the part of Government is apprehended. This splendid offer is only one of many, and M. Victor Hugo has not yet closed with any one.

The annual meeting of the Parisian Society for the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was held at the Hotel de Ville, on the 31st ult., under the presidency of M. de St. Hilaire. Sir John Scott Lillie, who had been invited to attend on behalf of the London society, delivered an address in French, urging the propriety of common action on the part of France and England in all works of humanity, and making, in illustration, a natural allusion to the great work which the two countries have taken in hand in the east of Europe. A cordial spirit of international fraternity characterised the proceedings, and at the close the air of "God Save the Queen" was played by the band of the 4th Regiment of Chasseurs a Cheval.

MINISTERIAL RE-ELECTIONS.

On Wednesday, no other candidate having been put in nomination, Lord John Russell was once more declared member for the City of London. Mr. Urquhart, who had issued an address and spoken before various public assemblages, could not find a proposer. When the Sheriff asked if there was any other candidate to propose, some cries of "Urquhart" were raised, and in the midst of the noise and confusion that honourable gentleman was seen to beckon and heard to request some person in the body of the hall to come forward and put him in nomination, in order to enable him to claim the right of addressing the citizens. The whole assemblage, however, remaining unmoved alike by his entreaties and his forlorn situation, Mr. Sheriff Wile again stepped forward and proclaimed: "Gentlemen of the livery, the Right Honourable Lord John Russell has been proposed, and seconded, and no other candidate being either proposed or seconded, I ask you whether you will elect and have Lord John Russell as your member—(loud and prolonged cheering, accompanied by the holding up of hands and the waving of hats)? Gentlemen, I now put the question to you, 'On the contrary'—(not a hand was upraised nor a hat displaced at this summons, whereupon the worthy Sheriff concluded): Gentlemen, I declare that Lord John Russell has been duly elected by you to be the citizen to represent you in the present Parliament!"—(vehement cheering).

Lord John Russell in his speech alluded to the Reform Bill as having been withdrawn "in deference to public opinion, rather than from Parliamentary resistance;" spoke warmly in favour of the French alliance; expressed his "trust" that the war we are about to carry on will be a war, not of two powers, but of five powers of Europe against the Emperor of Russia; and observed, that if the Emperor of Russia were to succeed in his attack, it "would be the success of a Government which endeavours to suppress all freedom of thought—(cheers)—to which neither political, nor religious, nor any kind of liberty can look for encouragement, and that there would be a deadly power hanging over Europe, and at length attacking even our institutions as incompatible with the existence of the monstrous tyranny which at present prevails in that country." (Cheers.) This was not a war from which we should gain advantages by conquest, and we had to deal with an enemy who would not come out upon the open sea, but all that our admirals leave undone could not be done by human courage or by human skill:—

I have said to you that I think it should be our endeavour to obtain "a durable, a solid, and an honourable peace." Now I should be guilty of the greatest presumption—I should be guilty of a breach of the most solemn duty—if I were to say what are the terms which, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, would make that peace honourable, solid, and durable. That is a question not merely for her Majesty's Government. It is to be decided along with the ally of her Majesty, the Emperor of France; it is to be considered in conjunction with other powers, if other powers should, as I hope, stand by our side in this conflict for the independence of Europe. But more than this. The exact terms of that peace must depend upon the fortunes of war—must depend upon the success with which we encounter the embattled legions of Russia. My hope is that that war will meet with the success which, from its object and its motive, it deserves; but this I will say, that no insufficient peace ought to be made; that we ought not to lay down our arms until we have obtained security for the future (loud and prolonged cheering)—that, having made the great exertions that we have done, that having our eyes open to the designs of Russia, that other nations of Europe having their eyes open likewise, we should be the most silly of mortals if we were to sign an insecure peace, which would leave it to our present enemy to bide his time, until by the dissension of other powers, until by the weakness of some of those powers, he should find a better opportunity of accomplishing his design. (Cheers.) Let us consider for a moment what that design is. I give it from no unfair interpretation of that which has been said by the Emperor of Russia himself. It is that the principalities he occupies and Bulgaria should be held under his protection; it is that Constantinople itself should not be occupied, either by the present government, or by any free government, who should harbour those who might be considered his enemies. It is, therefore, that Constantinople should be, like Cracow or Warsaw, subject to Russian protection and Russian influences. I say that such a consummation would be fatal to the liberty of Europe. (Cheers.) I ask you to oppose such a consummation. I believe that British hearts, British courage, British skill, and British power, are equal to achieve for us, in conjunction with our allies, and in conjunction with the sympathies of Europe, and not of Europe only but of the whole world, that success; and I earnestly pray that God may give the victory to her Majesty's arms for that purpose." (Loud and prolonged cheers, amidst which the noble lord withdrew).

After the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs had withdrawn, Mr. Urquhart advanced to the front of the platform amid a perfect tumult of groans and hisses, mingled with some faint cheering. When the commotion had partially subsided he said: I have only one word to say to you—will you hear it—(shouts of "No, no")? You have carried your election, and you

NONCONFORMIST



have lost the chance of saving your country—(uproar and laughter). The instruments of Russia are the statesmen of the Cabinets of Europe; and you have made another tool for the Emperor of Russia in the person whom you have chosen as your representative—(renewed confusion). I know I have no right to address you, and I do not demand it; but I give you this warning, that you will live to regret your decision of this day.

Sir George Grey, the new Colonial Secretary, was re-elected for Morpeth on Saturday without opposition. His speech, though long, was not at all remarkable, consisting mainly of a review of the political events of the last year. He stated that he had been offered the post of Home Secretary in the present Government at its formation, but, from reluctance to take office, had declined it. Sir George alluded somewhat ostentatiously, to the personal sacrifices involved in now taking office, and devoted a considerable part of his speech to the origin and consequences of the war, his remarks upon which were of a very mild character. He dwelt with emphasis upon the horrors, privations, and cost of hostilities, and the danger of increasing the war spirit. He has not, therefore, pleased the more energetic supporters of the war. Thus the *Daily News* says, *apropos* of his speech:—"If Sir George Grey has entered the Ministry to throw cold water upon the enthusiastic desires of a people to put down a war-making despot, he had much better have kept out of Downing-street. We don't want another member of the Cabinet to hold a brief for Russia. Lord John Russell was pulled down into the mire once before by this kind of 'statesmanship,' and will suffer a similar fate, unless he takes care to keep his Whig friends in order."

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

The Board of Trade Department of Science and Art is making arrangements to carry into effect the wishes of the French Government by providing for an adequate representation of British art in the Great Exhibition which will take place in Paris next spring. It is obviously most desirable that the selection of works representing the British school should be as full and complete as possible, at the same time that it should be of a character to do honour to British artists, and to raise the art of this country in the eyes of Europe. With this view the Board of Trade has requested the representatives of the various public bodies in art to give their assistance and advice in framing proper preliminary regulations. For painting, the Presidents of the Royal Academies of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin; the Presidents of the Societies of British Artists, of the Old and New Watercolour Societies, and of the National Institute of Art, together with the Art Superintendent of the Department of Science and Art on the part of the Board of Trade, have been requested to form a committee to consult on the best means of carrying into effect the wishes of both countries. To make suitable regulations for sculpture, Sir Richard Westmacott, the Professor of Sculpture in the Royal Academy; Mr. Calder Marshall, on the part of the Royal Scottish Academy; and Mr. John Bell, who gave suitable assistance in arranging the sculpture in the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park, have been requested to form a committee to consider the preliminary arrangements in this country. For architecture, the Board of Trade has asked the Royal Academy for the assistance of Professor Gookerell, of Professor Donaldson, Hon Secretary for Foreign Correspondence of the Institute of British Architects, and Mr. Scott, the Treasurer of the Architectural Museum, to advise in what way British Architecture may be best represented in the French Exhibition; while for engraving and lithography, which also form a part of the tuition of Fine Arts, Mr. J. Robinson, Mr. Lane, and Mr. Wornum have been requested to give their valuable assistance. It is expected that, with the advice and through the counsel of these gentlemen, representing each section of art, a most complete and satisfactory selection may be made, so as efficiently to represent British art in the World's Congress of 1855.

At a general meeting of the committee of the proposed Educational Exhibition, held on Saturday afternoon, at the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, Mr. Harry Chester (in the absence of Earl Granville) in the chair, a report was received from the sub-committee as to the progress they had made in carrying out the principles of the undertaking. The foreign countries that had co-operated were France, seven cantons of Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, Connecticut, Philadelphia, and Germany; in the latter country only private individuals. Sweden, Denmark, and Connecticut had sent their commissioners—Messrs. Siljestrom, Fogh, and Hon. H. Barnard. The report stated:—"The Exhibition would take place at St. Martin's-hall, which had been hired till the 20th of September, and its fittings, which had been attended with great expense to the Council, were under the direction of Mr. Thomas Cubitt. The available space on the ground was 3,346 feet, and on the wall 12,000 feet. The exhibition would be opened on the 4th of July, when Prince Albert would attend, and invitations would be sent to all the members of the Educational Committee and the examiners. The inaugural address, on 'The Material Helps of Education,' would be given by Dr. Whewell. Seven lectures, on 'The Sequence of the Sciences,' would subsequently be delivered by Professors Cressy, Morgan, Forbes, Huxley, Henfrey, Latham, and Lionel Playfair. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, when schoolmasters might attend, as they had generally half-holidays on those days, discussions on subjects connected with education would be held at three o'clock in the afternoon; on other days at five. To facilitate the admission of schools and to induce masters and mistresses to profit by the exhibition and the lectures in connexion with it, the Society

of Arts intended to make their room in John-street, Adelphi, a kind of a club, where food would be provided, and, if possible, beds. The committee had met with great indulgence from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, who will admit all articles free of duty.

LOSS OF THE "EUROPA" TRANSPORT.

Within a short distance of the spot where the *Amazon* was destroyed a short time back, another calamity of the same nature has occurred. The *Europa*, cavalry transport, late on the night of the 31st May or early in the morning of the 1st of June, was burnt to the water's edge. The calamity is not so complete as it might have been, for the majority of the passengers are in safety, but still the loss is most lamentable—twenty-one men, and fifty-seven horses. It appears that the *Europa* sailed from Plymouth about eleven in the morning on the 30th of May. She was towed by a steamer a few miles out to sea, and then made sail for her destination. All went well until ten o'clock of the next night, when fire, from some cause not assigned, burst up the fore hatch-way. In a few minutes the whole ship, from the poop forward, was in flames. The first thought naturally was to get rid of the ammunition on board, and this appears to have been done, even in the midst of the dire confusion and alarm. All endeavours were used to extinguish the fire, but without success. The men gave up all for lost, and rushed to the boats, but were restrained by their gallant Colonel—now, alas! no more—and the officers under his command. The life-boat was lowered away with twenty-five men in it, and this boat, with the persons it contained, was subsequently picked up by the bark *Maranan*, of Dundee. Two other boats were on board. As usual in such cases, it was found impossible to launch the larger one! The boat, no doubt, was filled with spars, or encumbered with hamper, or placed in such a position that it could not be got afloat on the instant when required. The mate and four of the crew now left the vessel in the Government gig, and made for a light, which proved to be the Prussian schooner *Kennet Kingsford*, bound for Port-au-Prince. When it was found impossible to get the larger boat—the horse-boat—afloat, the lashings of the other boat were cut, and it was immediately filled with men. When twenty-six were on board, one of the crew cut the rope by which it was held to the ship, lest the boat should be swamped; and after about an hour this boat, which had last left the ship, was taken in tow by the gig, that had now pulled back to the spot. These two boats reached the Prussian schooner in safety, and were taken on board. Subsequently, but we know not how, Lieutenant Black, Captain Gardner, the master of the *Europa*, with two of his crew, and six privates of the dragoons, reached a brig named the *Clematis* in safety. Colonel Moore, Veterinary Surgeon Kelly, sixteen dragoons, two sailors, and one woman, are among the missing.

H.M. steam frigate *Tribune* came upon the site of the burning wreck about half-past nine on the morning of the 1st. The sea for some distance around was covered with charred timbers, hencoops, floating hay, tanks full of biscuit, &c. Not a living person nor a corpse could be found, although the weather appears to have been remarkably fine, nor could a boat be seen in any direction. The relics that were found by the people of the *Tribune*—a trooper's stirrup, a pair of fatigues trousers, &c.—afforded unmistakable evidence of the character of the ship, or at least that she had been used upon that occasion as a cavalry transport. The *Tribune* afterwards came up with the *Clematis*, the *Kennet Kingsford*, and the *Maranan*—and received the survivors on board.

A court of inquiry, held on board, has failed to discover the cause of the conflagration; but the conduct of both the military and nautical commanders appears to have been most praiseworthy. Captain Carnegie (of the *Tribune*) writes:—

The greater number of these were washed away from the wreck of the masts, to which they had clung, but Lieutenant-Colonel Moore remained at his post to the last; and, having repeatedly declined to leave the burning vessel until all his men had been safely removed, was at last driven into the mizen channels by the violence of the flames, and there unfortunately perished.

From the concurrent testimony of those left on the burning wreck, from half-past eleven p.m. of the 31st ult., to half-past two a.m. of the 1st, it would appear that the conduct of the master (Mr. Gardner) was marked by great coolness and intrepidity throughout these trying hours; he was the last man to quit the wreck, and had his zealous endeavours to maintain order and save life been as ably seconded by his ship's company, there can be little doubt that the list of casualties would have been reduced.

Sir James Graham intimated, in the House of Commons, on Friday, that the conduct of the crew would be a subject of inquiry.

A few days ago the wife of Gervase Wilkinson, labourer, of Wellaton, Notts, was delivered of her twenty-fifth child.

The most curious tenure that, perhaps, ever was devised (says the London correspondent of the *Inverness Courier*), is one which still exists, namely, that of a great fortune left to a butcher in Clare-market, on the condition that he should drive a coach-and-four one hour every day, sun or shower, sick or well,—if he omits one day he loses his fortune. I have once or twice seen this turn-out. The coach the butcher drives is one of the old mail-coach fashion, and, with his white hat and top-boots, he looks quite like an old English coachman. Sometimes it is filled inside and out with butcher boys, and not unfrequently with more questionable passengers. [Extraordinary & true.]

Court, Personal, and Official News.

On Thursday her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Portuguese King and Prince, and a large party, drove to Ascot Heath, in ten carriages, to witness the races. During the race for the New Stakes, just as the horses had reached the Royal Stand, her Majesty, in her eagerness to see the race, not perceiving that the window where she had been standing had been put down, leant forward rather hastily to look out, and broke a pane of glass with which she came in contact. The occurrence was perceived only by a few persons on the course, but it produced a great deal of merriment among the Royal party, the Queen herself setting the example. On her return the Queen gave a grand dinner in St. George's-hall, Windsor Castle. Among the plate exhibited was a sculptured silver shield, a gift of the King of Prussia to his godson, the Prince of Wales. Her Majesty afterwards had an evening party. On Saturday Prince Albert inspected the Horse Guards at Windsor. In the afternoon the Court returned to Buckingham Palace. Amongst the visitors at Windsor have been the French Ambassador, the Austrian Minister, the Duke of Beaufort, and the Earls Clarendon, Beborough, and Granville.

The King of Portugal and his brother have been busy sight-seeing, &c., during the past week. On Saturday they went to Oxford on a visit to the University. In the Court of Common Council, a day or two ago, there was a discussion with closed doors of some hours on the propriety of presenting the King an address of congratulation. The address was at length adopted nearly unanimously. On Monday his Majesty was received by the Lord Mayor and civic authorities at the Mansion-house, when the address was formally presented. In his reply, the King alluded to his travels as being undertaken "not for amusement, but instruction."

The friendship between England and Portugal has existed for centuries and increased more and more.

England has always fought for Portugal whenever her independence has been threatened. Our liberal institutions powerfully contribute to identify the feelings and interests of both countries. Throughout the course of my reign, my constant and firm purpose will be, under the blessing of Divine Providence, both to maintain the institutions of my country, and to render more and more close the relations which have united and continue to unite the two nations. (Loud cheers.)

The Royal party, attended by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs, then proceeded to view the Bank, the Royal Exchange, the Stock Exchange, &c., &c., and returned at three o'clock to partake of a *déjeuner à la fourchette* in the Egyptian Hall.

Chevalier Bunsen left this country on Saturday. He does not return to Prussia (says the *Times*) even to take leave on the termination of his mission, but he retires to Heidelberg, to pursue those studies which he has never deserted for the more exciting pursuits of politics; and he carries with him the honest consciousness of public duties well performed, and the respect of all those who have watched his career in this country.

On Monday evening the third of a series of lectures on Poland and its past history, "with reference to the present crisis and the permanent establishment of peace in Europe," was delivered at St. Martin's-hall, Long Acre, by Edmund Beales, Esq.; the Right Hon. the Earl of Harrowby in the chair. In the course of his remarks the noble earl said, that when he considered the war in which we were engaged, and how it was to terminate, he must say that he could not see how the security of Europe could be provided for, or how a durable peace could be made without the restoration of Poland. The *Daily News* thinks it cause for gratulation, that in addition to the Earl of Shaftesbury's speech in favour of the re-establishment of the country of the Poles, we now find Lord Harrowby expressing similar sentiments to Lord Dudley Stuart and the Earl of Shaftesbury on this subject.

The Sheffield town council, at their meeting on Wednesday, adopted, after a spirited debate, a petition to Parliament in favour of the restoration of Polish nationality.

The Right Hon. Henry Tufnell died on Thursday. He was one of the Lords of the Treasury under Lord Melbourne's Administration, and on the formation of Lord John Russell's Government, in 1846, became Secretary to the Treasury, which office, declining health obliged him to resign in 1850. Mr. Tufnell represented Devonport from 1840 up to the present session, when he resigned his seat.

We (*Daily News*) are authorised to contradict the rumour that Sir William Molesworth was likely to accept a peerage.

Sir George Grey has appointed Lord Hobart and Mr. Samuel Whitbread, M.P., his private secretaries. Mr. Whitbread receives no salary, in consequence of having a seat in Parliament.

The Queen has appointed the Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley to the deanery of Windsor.

Sir H. E. Fox Young, now Lieutenant-General of South Australia, is to be Governor of New Zealand. Sir William Denison, Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land, is, it is said, to be appointed to New South Wales, *vice* Sir Charles Fitzroy.

Lord Maidstone and Mr. William Slade, Q.C., are, it is believed, to be the Conservative candidates for the representation of Cambridge whenever a writ for the election is issued. Mr. Slade is one of the leaders of the Western circuit, eldest son of Lieutenant-General Sir John Slade, and brother of the admiral in the Turkish navy of that name.

From statistics just published, it appears, that in four years the Encumbered Estates Court has disposed of property claims to the enormous amount of nearly thirteen millions sterling.

The Marquis of Lansdowne gave a grand ball on Friday evening, at Lansdowne House, the company

at which included nearly seven hundred members of the aristocracy. The introduction into society of the Lady Mary Fitzmaurice, granddaughter of the noble marquis, was the occasion of the fete.

From a return just published it appears that the number of electors registered in England was, last year, 472,593, and in Wales, 37,527.

The Duke of Newcastle's second son, Lord Edward Pelham Clive, has just entered the army as ensign in the Rifle Brigade, and shortly departs, it is understood, to join his regiment at the seat of war.

The feeling of dissatisfaction excited by Lord Palmerston's Police Bill is very widely spread, and a powerful opposition will await every step of the bill in Parliament. The corporation of Manchester have resolved on the most strenuous exertions for its rejection, and committees have been appointed in very many of the large towns for a similar purpose. On Friday the Birmingham town council unanimously adopted a petition against the bill, to be followed, if necessary, by a towns meeting. Petitions hostile to the proposed enactment have also been adopted within the last few days by the town councils of Sheffield, Southampton, Hull, Manchester, &c. A public meeting, convened last Thursday at Winchester, on a requisition signed by upwards of 100 of the principal inhabitants, was well attended, and adopted resolutions condemnatory of the bill.

The following is a corrected list of the legacies bequeathed by the late John Wright, Esq., of Sparkbrook-house, Birmingham, and formerly of Nottingham:—The British and Foreign Bible Society, £2,000; the Church Missionary Society (for Africa), £1,000; General Baptist Missionary Society, £500; Nottingham General Hospital, £100; Nottingham Dispensary, £100; Nottingham Wesleyan Benevolent Society, £100; Birmingham General Hospital, £100; Queen's Hospital £100; General Dispensary, £500; Eye Infirmary, £200; Blind Asylum, £100; Deaf and Dumb Institution, £100; Wesleyan Benevolent Society, £100.—*Nottingham Journal*. [Mr. Wright was a distinguished "Methodist Reformer."]

His Highness Dhuleep Singh, the late Maharajah of Lahore, and the youthful and dethroned monarch of the great Sikh kingdom has just arrived from India. He is the son of the far-famed Runjeet Singh, the one-eyed lion of Lahore, and his mother was the Ranees who gave such trouble to the British authorities. He was once the owner of the celebrated Koh-i-nor, or mountain of light, now in the possession of the Queen of England. On his journey he was treated with distinguished honours by the British authorities at every port at which he touched. Dhuleep Singh is sixteen years of age, rather tall and slender, and exceedingly well formed. He is not so dark as East Indians usually are. His face is rather long, but his features are regular, and after the European type. His manners are princely, and rather reserved before strangers. He dined with the passengers on board the *Colombo*, and occasionally played chess in the saloon. He speaks English well, and is a Christian, being a member of the Church of England. His object in coming to England is to study the manners and see the people of this country.

Law, Assize, and Police.

There was a further hearing on Tuesday and Thursday in last week, of counsel engaged in assailing and defending the will of the late Duchess of Manchester. The evidence in opposition to the motion for a new trial, consisted chiefly of letters written by the Duchess to her husband, one in 1829, the other seventeen years afterwards, both breathing the warmest affection, and the latter declaring that through five-and-twenty years the husband had remained the lover. These letters, Sir F. Thesiger contended, showed the entire confidence and affection existing between the duke and the duchess. The learned baron had been right in telling the jury that the duke had not suggested the will, but had only suggested the way in which the spontaneous idea of the duchess might be carried out; and that the fact of the duke not having sent any legal adviser to the duchess, showed that he did not consider he was doing anything which required any extra caution. In the course of the case the Vice-Chancellor observed, that he thought it would overturn many wills if it was held by the Court that the same state of mind was requisite to execute a will as was required to give instruction for it, and which a short time before the person might probably have been perfectly competent to give. The further hearing of the case was adjourned to Tuesday, the 27th instant.

George William M'Arthur Reynolds, proprietor of *Reynolds's Newspaper*, with John Dick, his publisher, have been threatened with a criminal information for libels on Viscount Drumlanrig. The motion for a rule to show cause was made in the Bail Court; the affidavits stated that the defendants had systematically vilified the plaintiff, and an insurance company of which he is chairman; stating that the viscount had been outlawed, had taken office in the royal household to escape arrest for debt, and for the sake of attendance-money had lent his name to a company got up in the King's Bench. Lord Drumlanrig swore that there was not the slightest ground for these statements. The rule was immediately granted, and made returnable within three days; but the defendant making full apology and retraction, it was discharged on payment of costs.

Judgment has been given in the Court of Exchequer on the motion for a new trial, in the case of Theobald v. the Railway Passengers Assurance Company. The Chief Baron said, on this occasion the plaintiff was a traveller by railway. It is quite plain that, although his journey had in one sense terminated, he had not

ceased to be connected with the carriage. He was standing upon it, and it was quite plain that he was doing an act which, as a passenger, he must necessarily do. We think that he was not disconnected with the machinery of motion until he was safely landed from the carriage on the platform. The accident occurred while he was in the act of leaving the carriage; it was attributable to his being a passenger, and arising out of that character; therefore, it is a railway accident. Then, as to the amount of damages. The jury gave a verdict for damages and expenses, £34 19s.; for the loss of time, £100; for loss of profit £100; but we think that, in considering the damage, the consequential mischief of losing profit and time ought not to be taken into account, otherwise a passenger, whose time is more valuable, would receive a larger amount than another. The company contract for the loss of a limb, not with regard to the loss with reference to the station of the man, but with reference to death. Mr. Baron Alderson was still more decisive: I think a railway accident is one which happens to a passenger while travelling; and that it is quite immaterial whether it is caused by the railway or not. The rule was therefore discharged as to the first point, and made absolute to reduce the damages to £34 19s.

In the same Court, a passenger on the Great Western Railway, named Williams, brought an action against the company for the loss of his portmanteau, containing the ordinary luggage allowed to a first-class passenger. The company pleaded a by-law of their own, declaring "that they would not be responsible for passengers' luggage unless booked and paid for." It was, however, clearly shown that this by-law was in direct contradiction to a section of their act; and that they were responsible for passengers' luggage up to the allowed quantity. Judgment was given by all the judges, without hesitation, for the plaintiff, Mr. Baron Martin expressing his surprise that the company should have raised such a question.

At the Central Criminal Court, a man named Ward was indicted for the manslaughter of a child. The prisoner at the time was lying at the back of a cart in a drunken sleep, and of course without any control over the horse he professed to drive. The child, who was playing in the road, was crushed to death in a frightful manner. In answer to the charge, the prisoner said that as it was a holiday on the day in question he had been drinking all the morning, and at the request of one of his mates he went with the cart out of his regular duty, and being very sleepy, he got up behind to have a ride, and did not know anything that happened; but he was very sorry for it. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty, but recommended the prisoner to mercy. His Lordship (Mr. Justice Coleridge) asked if he was to understand that the jury meant to recommend the prisoner to mercy because he was drunk at the time he committed the offence? The jury said they did not exactly mean that, but they took into consideration that it was a holiday, and that the prisoner had merely undertaken the care of the cart and horses for another person. The learned judge said most certainly no effect could be given to such a recommendation, upon the ground that the party accused was drunk at the time the offence was committed. The vice of drunkenness was a national disgrace to this country, and he had no hesitation in stating his opinion, that three-fourths of the crime which was the subject of investigation in our criminal courts was to be ascribed, either indirectly or directly, to that vice. After making some observations upon the case of the prisoner, his lordship concluded by sentencing him to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for six months.

Another case tried at the same Court but too well confirmed Justice Coleridge's remarks—all the three parties to the case being drunkards. The prisoner, Benjamin Copeland, who is a trunk-maker, his wife, and a man named Beldon, were at a public-house together, and they drunk rum and ale until all three were very much intoxicated. The prosecutrix left the public-house first, and proceeded to her own house, and, according to her statement, she was so drunk that she went up to her bed-room at once, and got into bed. It seemed that after the woman was gone, the two men left, and that they intended to go to the house of the prisoner, but separated on the way, and Beldon arrived first; and although he was told that the prisoner was not at home, he would not believe it, but ran upstairs to the bed-room where the prosecutrix was. At this moment the prisoner arrived, and upon his inquiring for his wife, a lad, who was in his service, said in reply, "that his missus was upstairs in her bed-room with another man." The prisoner, in a great rage, seized a screw-driver, and rushed upstairs as fast as his drunken condition would permit. Beldon met him on the stairs, and after he had passed him, he ran out of the house, and the prisoner then forced open the door of his wife's bed-room, and commenced an attack upon her with the screw-driver, doing her considerable injury before she could be rescued from him. The jury found the prisoner guilty of unlawfully wounding, and he was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

At the Middlesex Sessions, the commercial traveller, Stockwell, whose wife was recently rescued by a gentleman passing from the room in which her husband had confined her and their children, was indicted for an aggravated assault. The prosecutrix, who was in tears all the time she was giving her evidence, earnestly entreated for mercy for the defendant. He had expressed the most sincere penitence for his unkind treatment of her and her children, and she had no doubt he would reform. He never ill-treated them except when he was intoxicated. The defendant, when called upon for his defence, said he had no control over himself when he had been drinking. The jury found him guilty of a common assault. Mr. Witham directed that the defendant should be brought up for judgment next session, and that, in the meantime, he should be

examined as to the state of his mind by the surgeon of the prison.

Yet another case of drunkenness, leading to worse, was heard on Saturday, before Mr. Yardley. A drunken, dissipated woman, the wife of a coal-heaver, burnt his trousers; and he, in rage and desperation, put her on the fire, and held her there till a constable wrested him away, which was not before the woman had been dreadfully burnt about the legs and thighs. Her screams were terrible, and she called out, "Murder, murder! save me!" The prisoner said, "I know I must be locked up for this, but I would sooner be hanged than that she should be spending all my earnings." The woman herself said, "I won't charge him. I have done it myself. He gave me his money, and I spent it, and it is all my own fault." There was no question that the prisoner, an industrious man, was driven to desperation by the habits of his wife. Mr. Yardley said he was determined to send the case before a jury. If the woman did not appear, he should commit the prisoner for trial on the evidence of the police constable alone.

Under the head of "Caution to Visitors to the Crystal Palace," is given the report of a case that is no less a caution to the Directors. A young gentleman, named Coleman, knocked down the other day a piece of statuary, and "pitched into" an attendant who prevented his running through a sheet of plate glass. His excuse was that he had been drinking, and was quite willing to pay for the damage accidentally inflicted. Five pounds was claimed as the price of the image, and the magistrate discharged the offender with an "admonition."

A man, who seven years ago was sentenced to ten years transportation for forgery on the Commercial Bank of London, was lately allowed to come out of prison with a ticket of leave, went the other day to Moses' warehouse, and presented a forged letter from Colonel Jebb, ordering articles to the amount of £4 13s. 1d., for which he paid with a forged cheque. He had imitated Colonel Jebb's signature from his ticket of leave! He has been committed for trial.

Mr. Forster, the Liverpool sharebroker, has been committed for trial for stealing a thousand-pound bank post-bill from the Borough Bank; but he was admitted to bail. He is a young man, and had been known to be short of money recently.

Another case of drunken assault was heard at the Westminster Court on Wednesday. The prisoner, a Herculean fellow, knocked down, in Tothill-street, a woman who was a perfect stranger, and had given him no provocation. He was committed for six months with hard labour.

Accidents and Offences.

Trade union outrages are unhappily still prevalent at Sheffield. Elijah Parker, a non-unionist saw-grinder, recently took up his abode in a house at Dore, having strong doors and shutters. As he anticipated that the "rattening" process would be applied to him, he was about to have gratings put in the chimneys to prevent the descent of bottles of gunpowder! He had also a store of fire-arms. On the night of the 4th instant, a noise outside drew him out with a double-barrelled gun; instantly he was shot in the shoulder from a plantation. Not dismayed, he dashed up towards a stone wall, and was about to fire, when he received a second shot in the arm, and fell. Mrs. Parker had gallantly followed her husband pistol in hand. She was just in time to fire at the assassins as they ran off. Parker is badly hurt. A Sheffield correspondent of the *Times* describes the system of terrorism of which the above is an illustration:—

The above outrage took place at the village of Dore, near this place, and the extract copied in your columns informs us that another sawgrinder at Dore has received a warning, through the post, that he must get rid of an apprentice whom he has just taken, and threatening him with punishment in case of refusal. And again,—"Two or three days ago a respectable firm of Sheffield manufacturers received a similar note, addressed personally to the head of the firm, and he was warned to get rid of the 'knobstick' saw-grinders from their wheel. The note was accompanied by an intimation, that the access to their premises, as well as their private residences, were known to the writers, and that they might expect an early visit; furthermore, that an attack on their persons would be made the first convenient opportunity."

I further learn, that within the last few weeks there have been no less than five cases of "rattening," or, in other words, attempted destruction of machinery by means of bottles or canisters of gunpowder thrown into premises in the night. And, alas! the same thing has been going on for years.

Now, Sir, these outrages are never known to occur except in cases where there is some trades' union dispute. And, secondly, the secrecy necessary to their fulfilment is so well maintained, that rewards offered for the discovery of the authors utterly fail. The knowledge of the actual perpetrators of the deeds is confined to very few persons, and these keep so accurate a watch over each other, and are of so desperate a character, that treachery would almost as certainly lead to murder. I can only call to mind one case where the offering of a reward has led to the conviction of the offenders, but I remember a case where £1,000 was offered, and in vain. Sir, it is a fact that some of our most respectable manufacturers have narrowly escaped destruction by some of these midnight outrages. Unless some check can be devised, what is to become of the trade of this district? A new era has arisen since the existence of railways has created so many demands for new forms of hardware. The last fifteen years have established new trades in Sheffield. Large factories for the production of railway springs and axles—for all kinds of railway carriage iron-work—have started up in places which even four or five years ago were green fields. If industry could be carried on, enterprise directed, capital applied in safety, the prospects of Sheffield would be almost unrivalled for the future.

The Rev. T. W. Holmes, Independent minister of Wisbech, was struck with a fit of paralysis while

walking by the water side before dinner and fell into the river. His dead body was found floating down with the tide. His medical attendant is of opinion, that he died instantaneously; that animation was suspended immediately that he fell into the water. The body was not immersed in the water. The back was quite dry, and the watch was still going. Although the friends of Mr. Holmes anticipated his sudden removal, when it should be the will of God, they were painfully shocked at the manner of his death; that he, who was one of the kindest and most amiable of men, who had visited hundreds during the long course of his ministry in their dying moments, and administered to them the consolations of the Gospel, should have died without any earthly friend near him to witness the last conflict. Mr. Holmes has been pastor of the Independent chapel about thirty-six years; and during that time has been eminently useful, not only as pastor of the church, but as a devoted friend to the various religious societies. No man was ever more universally beloved and respected than the Rev. W. Holmes; and the deep feeling which his death has caused in Woburn and its neighbourhood confirms the Scripture, "The memory of the just is blessed." Mr. Holmes, ever since the first attack of paralysis, has been compelled to retire from the active duties of the ministry; and, about three years ago, the Rev. Henry Trigg became associated with him in the co-pastorate.

Mrs. Mosely, a beer-house keeper of Wakefield, a few nights ago was frightened by a noise under the bed when retiring for the night. Unable to speak she motioned her husband to look towards the object which had frightened her; and on doing so, he discovered the legs of a man, who turned out to be a labourer named David Maguire, who lives on Primrose-hill. He had his shoes off, and held them in his hand. It appears the prisoner was the chairman of a money-club held at the public-house, and that his object was to possess himself of the money belonging to the members. He has been committed for trial.

"The Claremont tragedy," recorded in our last paper, appears to have created much sensation in the neighbourhood. On Friday morning the remains of the unfortunate children were conveyed to their final resting-place, in the old churchyard of Esber. The road which had to be traversed was full half a mile from the churchyard, and along the whole line crowds were in waiting to witness the scene. As the funeral procession approached its destination, the feeling amongst the people appeared to burst all bounds. Several elderly females were so completely overcome that they fainted, and had to be conveyed into the adjoining houses. The unfortunate father never once lifted up his head from the beginning to the end of the service. At the lowering of the last coffin he had to be held up to prevent his falling forward, so great was his affliction. The unfortunate woman who has caused all this misery appears now to show the utmost indifference to the whole appalling transaction.

A highway robbery and murder has been committed near Leicester. The body of a respectable young farmer, Mr. S. Adcock, of Ashby Shrubs, Enderby-lane, has been found on the Hinckley-road, about three miles from Leicester. There is no doubt that the murder was committed in the most deliberate manner, by a pistol being fired at the deceased, inflicting a fatal wound in the base of the skull at the back of the right ear. The hat and neckerchief of the unfortunate man were missing, and the pocket on the left side of his trousers was turned inside out, two receipt stamps lying near it. All his money was gone, though, it is believed, he had a considerable sum.

A boiler explosion in Messrs. Beasley and Farmer's District Ironworks, Smithwick, near Birmingham, has been very disastrous. Six men were scalded in the most shocking manner, and faint hopes are entertained of their recovery. Several other of the workmen were more or less injured, but none to a very serious extent. On a rough calculation, the injury sustained will amount to at least £2,000.

Literature.

The Spirit of the Bible; or, the Nature and Value of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures discriminated in an Analysis of their several Books. By EDWARD HIGGINSON. London: E. T. Whitfield.

A VERY capital idea is expressed in the purpose and plan of this work, and great ability and considerable learning are displayed in its execution. A similar book, founded on as thorough study of the Bible as this, and written as forcibly and agreeably, but directed by sounder principles of criticism and interpretation, would be a welcome publication to the class of readers described by the author as "thoughtful and intelligent, but not learned." But this book is written from a standpoint we believe to be untenable, and in a spirit which would justify us in describing it as a piece of "sweeping rationalism," in our sense of the words, although the author seems to apply such words only to those who "presume to deny the possibility of a supernatural revelation."

The aim of the work is "to show the spirit in which the Scriptures require to be read and interpreted, received and defended;" and "to indicate the ground on which Rational Christianity may firmly take its stand, implying the Divine origin of Judaism." The author thinks there is less novelty in his ideas than in their publication: he calls them "parts of the unwritten faith of common sense." Sincerity, maturity, earnestness, we will not deny him, in their promulgation. The

first part of the volume is taken up with "Preliminaries," on the study of the Scriptures, the Bible in general, the Jewish Scriptures, the religious value and significance of the Jewish literature, Inspiration, and the relation of the Scriptures to Natural Science. We have every desire to be fair in representing these discussions; and we think the author will not object to our having isolated the following sentences, which occur in the last of them:—they will speak for the leading views of the book, as to the nature and value of the Old Testament, and the special significance of Judaism; as well as indicate the author's mode of dealing with the Pentateuch.

"So far as the Old Testament goes, the object of revelation manifestly is, to teach the Unity, Providence, and Perfections of God. Together with these, as temporary means to this end, a peculiar ritual was instituted by Moses. . . . The Mosaic system [consists of] religious ceremonies so far mixed with civic regulations as was necessary for the working out of the religious idea. The last four books of Moses minutely describe this system in the historical order. To this history of the Mosaic institutions the author has prefixed the history of the Patriarchs of the Jewish nation, and has gone further back still to give the history of the human race as received in his time; and to all this he has again prefixed a splendid, half-poetical and truly pictorial description of the creation of the universe, as it might be supposed to have taken place, and, doubtless, as it was believed by devout thinkers in his day to have actually taken place. The beginning of Genesis might be described as a devout rhapsody on the power and goodness of God, in the formation of his visible works. But the author, be he Moses or some one else, has not said that he was inspired to write that description; and those who have ventured to assert it on his behalf, have in effect, though unintentionally, impugned his credit as an inspired man; for some parts of the description turn out to be inconsistent with geological science."

We have marked by italics the points in this extract that will prefigure, tolerably completely, to every one conversant with biblical introduction and interpretation, the general principles of this work on the Old Testament. If newspaper criticism permitted a discussion so lengthy as would be involved, we would attempt the justification of the opinion we can now only dogmatically assert—that each member of these sentences placed in italics, contains an unsupported statement or a false assumption. That there is, however, no concealment or unfairness in Mr. Higginson's mode of treating these questions, we beg distinctly to say: but, we join issue with him on these points. We are not able more minutely to describe his volume:—all his representations and expositions, however, imply that the human element in the Jewish Scriptures is more abundant than the Divine—although they admittedly contain the records of a revelation,—and that large parts of them have barbarous features and an unholy feeling, at once offensive to our better nature, impossible of reconciliation with the character of the true God, and injurious in their moral influence on those who believe them to have any religious significance. At the same time, the literary and moral beauty, the social and religious truth, of the Old Testament as a whole, receive ample justice in the analysis of the several books. These analyses are admirably clear, full, intelligent, and suggestive, if we only accept the author's standpoint. Though we could not offer this book to any one ignorant of the scholarship of the subjects it embraces, yet thoughtful, well-informed persons, though differing wholly from the writer's characteristic views, might find valuable helps in it to the comprehension of particular books, to the interpretation of some difficult and obscure passages, and to a moral use of the ancient Scriptures generally.

Gerstücker's Travels. Translated from the German. London: T. Nelson & Sons.

Memoirs of the Court of Prussia. Translated from the German of Dr. VEHSE, by FRANZ C. F. DEMMLER. London: T. Nelson & Sons.

ANOTHER series of popular works is inaugurated by the volumes before us; which we have for that reason placed together, although unrelated in subject. Messrs. Nelsons' "Modern Library" is intended to comprise works in history, travel, and general literature; the size is crown octavo; the type and binding elegant; the price most reasonable. The particular books selected by them for a commencement, are known to us only in these translations; but have an interest and value that will secure their wide diffusion and popularity.

Frederic Gerstücker appears to have set sail from the Weser, in March 1849, for California. He was favoured with "travelling money" from the then existing German Imperial Ministry, on condition of his visiting certain countries. On arriving at Rio de Janeiro, he determined to make the overland journey across South America. In the states of the Plate River, and during a ride over the Pampas, he saw and experienced enough to satisfy even one with as good a stock of recklessness and love of adventure as himself. After reaching Mendoza, our traveller had to spend eight days in seeking for a guide to conduct him across the Cordilleras. It was winter; the mountains must be crossed on foot; and the journey, at any time, reputed to be full of terrible dangers. It turned out, however, that the perils of the way were not so great as anticipated; and after a journey that had its own peculiar excitements and ex-

quisite enjoyments, as well as difficulties and toils, Valparaiso was reached in safety; thence the adventurer embarked for California, and arrived at San Francisco in September, 1849. The "diggings" are now an old subject; but our author will not weary those who will accompany him to the gold-fields, to Sacramento city, to San Antonio, or to Murphy's New Diggings, to see afresh the life of a gold-digger, and hear his recital of personal adventure in the American El Dorado. The descriptions and incidents of the work are given with great vividness and spirit; everywhere the narrative displays acute intelligence and genial humour. It is illustrated by tinted lithographs of Rio de Janeiro and the Cordilleras.

Vehse's "Memoirs of the Court of Prussia" is a pleasant and useful addition to our popular library of modern history. The period covered by these memoirs is from the accession of Frederic William I., the second king of Prussia, in 1713, to the death of Frederic William the Third, in 1840. Of course, much of the contents consists of the general history of Prussia; but, as this is developed in connexion with the biographies of the kings successively,—and as the work includes more detailed notices of the eminent persons immediately surrounding the throne than would be suited to the page of history proper,—the author appropriately styles his volume "Memoirs of the Court." The book is remarkably full in its information, impartial in its spirit, and easy and interesting in its manner. We like it all the better for having no dominant political or philosophical idea; and for the absence of the artificial fervour and brilliancy which are just now "the rage" with dilettanti readers of history. Crowded with anecdote as are these pages, it would not be difficult to make a variety of amusing extracts; but we must limit ourselves to a single specimen of the quality of the volume.

FREDERIC THE GREAT—"THE DARK SIDE."

"We must not, however, forget the dark side of Frederic's exertions for the spread of light and civilisation. Frederic's system for the intellectual development of the people had its very grave drawbacks. The intellect was emancipated, but at the price of morality; at least for some time. It cannot be denied that in the capital of Prussia, a tone of frivolity and profligacy was spread, which had very melancholy consequences, and, as a final result, led to the disasters of 1806. Even Gentz, that sybaritic, worldly diplomatist, wrote, a short time before that catastrophe (April 21, 1806), in a letter to Johannes von Müller: 'Indeed I call Frederic II. *le plus grand et le plus immoral des hommes de son temps*,' accusing him as the author of all this misfortune before the world and posterity; to which Müller replied: 'I do not for one moment hesitate to subscribe to your opinion concerning Frederic's immorality. In the consciousness of his own greatness, he considered the morality of public law as a shift, which he did not need, and his sneers in this respect also have done infinite harm.'—The English ambassador Lord Malmesbury speaks, in 1772, of Berlin, as of a city in which there was 'neither an honest man nor a chaste woman.' There was, indeed, much that was false, unreasonable, and crotchety, in this otherwise great king. Frederic especially could never prevail upon himself to abstain from indulging in the biting sarcasms of Voltaire's sneering philosophy. He would not content himself with complaining of his own weak faith, but railed at strong faith in others; and he was never able to suppress his witticisms against the holy mysteries of religion, however grievously his attacks might wound the feelings of truly pious and single-minded persons."

A warning and severe lesson on account of his railing at religion, Frederic once received from old Zeithen; but it was too late to profit by it: the evil was deeply rooted, and the purification could only be effected after severe chastisement. . . . Having been invited to the king's table on Good Friday, Zeithen excused himself, pleading that on this solemn day he always used to take the sacrament; when he liked best to pass the remainder of the day in pious contemplation, in which he did not wish to be interrupted or disturbed. When Zeithen next dined at the royal table at Sans Souci, and the conversation had, as usual, taken a witty and jovial turn, the king flippantly addressed the old general by his side with the words: 'Well, Zeithen, how did the sacrament on Good Friday agree with you?—have you well digested the real body and true blood of Christ?' a loud laugh of derision from the gay company resounded through the hall; but old Zeithen shook his hoary head, got up, and after having bowed low before his king, addressed, in an unfaltering voice, the following words to him:—'Your Majesty knows, that in war I never feared any danger; and that, whenever it was required I have resolutely risked my life for you and for the country. This feeling still animates me; and if it is of any use, and you command it, I will obediently lay my head at your feet. But there is One above us, who is more than you or I, more than all men;—the Saviour and Redeemer of the world, who has dearly purchased salvation for us with his blood. That holy Saviour I cannot allow to be ridiculed: for in him rests my faith, my trust, and my hope in life and death. In the strength of this faith, your brave army has courageously fought and conquered; if your Majesty undermine it, you undermine, at the same time, the welfare of the State. This is a true saying indeed. May it please your Majesty to excuse my freedom.'—A deathly silence prevailed through the room. The king, with evident emotion, offered to the honest old general his right hand, laid the left on his shoulder and spoke, deeply affected: 'Happy Zeithen! I wish I could believe like you; hold fast your faith. It shall be done no more.' No one had the courage to say another word. And as, after such an impressive scene, the king could not find a proper transition to any other topic of conversation, he rose from the table, although dinner was only half over, and gave the sign of dismissal to his guests. But to Zeithen he offered his hand, saying: 'Come with me to my closet.'

Should our emphatic praise of this work lead any reader to its purchase, we are satisfied that its perusal will more than vindicate our recommendation; and will bespeak attention to "Nelson's Modern Library" as a series full of promise and worthy of cordial welcome.

The Miscellaneous Works of the Right Honourable Sir James Mackintosh. New Edition. Three Volumes. London: Longman & Co.

The Works of the Rev. Sydney Smith. New Edition. Three Volumes. London: Longman & Co.

THE re-issue of these standard works, in portable volumes, at a lower price, and uniform with the last edition of Macaulay's *Essays*, will give universal satisfaction. Their fame is too general and too far advanced for commendation or merely passing criticism to be anything else than an impertinence; and an elaborate essay on Mackintosh or Sydney Smith, though it might be attractive enough in a "Quarterly," would be inappropriate here. There is little to do, then, but to introduce these "people's editions" (for such they may be called) to our readers.

To everyone the works of Mackintosh have worth and interest. Perhaps his living reputation is not fully borne out by the accomplished literary labours he left behind: but at least they have a power of thought, a rich culture, and a graceful dignity, which have not often been brought to the treatment of philosophy, history, literature, law, and politics, in the person of one man. The "Dissertation on the Progress of Ethical Science" may not be a fully satisfactory representation and criticism of the moral systems it discusses; but it will ever be read for its learning, its sagacity, its good sense, and its purity and elegance of style. The "Discourse on the Law of Nature and Nations," and the "Life of Sir Thomas More," have become, each in its own department, an accepted classic. So that, to go no further, one is inclined to say with his friend Sydney Smith—"In history, the whole stream of time was open before him; he had looked into every moral and metaphysical question from Plato to Paley; and had waded through morasses of international law, where the step of no living man could follow him." His works, too, reflect the purity of character, candour and love of truth, benevolence and philanthropy, which are said to have eminently distinguished the man; and it is a noble eulogy of him, better than the fame that follows even higher literary success, to say—"If he had been more aware of his powers, and of that space which nature intended him to occupy, he would have acted a great part in life, and remained a character in history; as it is, he has left, in many of the best men in England, and of the continent, the deepest admiration of his talents, his wisdom, his knowledge, and his benevolence."

What a fund of rational amusement and abounding delight is here offered us, again, in the works of Sydney Smith! Their wit, railery, satire; their keen observation, knowledge of men and the world, and excellent good sense; their inexhaustible fertility of illustration and suggestion, and strong, easy, almost incomparable English style; will ever preserve them amongst the books most carefully studied for improvement in literary art, and most frequently resorted to for intellectual pleasure. It is, indeed, truly painful to read some parts of these volumes; painful to see a minister of the religion of the Cross recklessly assailing some of its most holy and devoted servants, or degrading his ministry to a mere worldly profession entered for the sake of its emoluments: but it is to be feared the Canon of St. Paul's had neither depth of religious conviction, nor even the elements of Christian feeling and spiritual life. Hence his hate of "Methodism" and Missions; his repeated defence of ecclesiastical abuses; and his eagerness to retain for the Church the character and arrangements of a "lottery," with "prizes" that should tempt gentlemen to prefer its sacred offices to worldly callings. Poor Sydney Smith! one is often near to despising him, and always feels something of pity for him; but love and reverence never. Yet are his writings among the most enjoyable, and perhaps will be found to be among the most durable, of our time, notwithstanding their fragmentary and occasional character.

Poetical Works of William Cowper. Vols. 1 and 2.—*Poetical Works of John Dryden.* Vol. 3. (Annotated Edition of the English Poets.) Edited by ROBERT BELL. London: J. W. Parker and Son.

MR. BELL certainly does not degenerate in care and painstaking: the present portions of his series are edited excellently. The third volume of Dryden, completing the work, contains the Tales from Chaucer, Lyrics, Epitaphs and Inscriptions, and the Prologues and Epilogues to plays by the author and others. The Introductions to the poems have the peculiar value and interest which, in the previous volumes, have already given to the "Annotated Edition of the Poets," a character and place of its own. We really regret, however, the insertion of the Prologues and Epilogues, as their licentiousness and filth almost unfit the book for free and general use.

Of Cowper's works, a man of good reading and good judgment ought to give us a satisfactory edition; there are helps to it in the charming letters of the

poet such as an author seldom furnishes for the illustration of his own works; and there are guides to it in previous editions, especially in that noble monument to Cowper which Southey constructed. And Mr. Bell has satisfied us. His memoir—which confines itself strictly to the facts of the poet's life, and successfully presents them even in minute detail, without ever running into prolixity—is written with feeling and elegance, and with great good sense in the treatment of those sad passages of the story, which have been so variously set forth, relative to the mental maladies of Cowper, and their connexion with his religious views and the religious society amidst which he lived. Two hitherto unpublished letters of the poet's, very charming for their cheerful friendliness, are also here rescued from oblivion, through the kindness of W. Bodham Donne, Esq.—whose name will suggest that he is a kinsman of Cowper's. The Introductions realise our idea of what is needful for a standard edition of a poet,—the brief narration of the origin and history of the poem, with other literary memorabilia respecting it, and such critical observations as, without passing beyond the poet himself, shall serve to point out the distinctive character of the individual composition, and its relations, contrasts, and resemblances to others of his works. Mr. Bell has drawn chiefly on the "Letters" for his historical information, and has generally preserved Cowper's own words. The Annotations, which must be named in connexion with the Introductions, are less numerous than those to Dryden, and very properly and advantageously so. They explain allusions, note the variations in the text of the editions that appeared in Cowper's lifetime, and quote some parallel passages or correspondences of thought or image from the writings of other poets. The Text, which the editor has found greatly to vary in the best editions, has been studiously revised, so that he has confidence in offering it as, "on the whole, the most accurate that has yet been given to the public." The Arrangement of the Poems is, for the first time, founded on their chronology; and we agree with the editor, that they thus gain new light and an enhanced interest, while they also acquire an auto-biographical character which contributes much to the illustration of many points in their author's history.

The original works of Cowper will be completed in a third volume; and the set will then recommend itself to the public as a most desirable edition of one of our most delightful poets; and more convenient than any which, associating the Poems with the Translation of Homer and the Letters, extends to a greater number of volumes. We do not institute any comparison between this and the "Library Edition," which has appeared almost simultaneously; for it seems to us that the aim of these competing issues of our Poets is not the same, that they address different classes of the reading public, have already acquired each a distinctive character, and have room enough for mutual success. It is sufficient to say, that, as an annotated Cowper, Mr. Bell's is an edition of the highest excellence and value.

Gleanings.

Why is a widower like a house in dilapidation?—Because he wants to be repaired.

A Truth-teller having been started in America, a frank competitor got up a Storyteller.

Catherine Hayes has returned to San Francisco from her musical tour, with gains estimated at £40,000.

In statistical tables just issued it is stated that "tall men live longer than short ones." Who doubts it?

The late Richard Benyon de Beauvoir, Esq., of Englefield-house, Berks, has left, it is said, in real and personal property, seven millions and a half.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's new work, "Sunny Memoirs of Foreign Lands" will, it is said, contain sixty illustrations from drawings by herself.

The Society of Arts intend to commemorate their centenary by a dinner, to be given in the grounds of the Crystal Palace Company, on Monday, the 3rd of July.

A serjeant writing from Scutari says that the French are so fond of their allies that "they will rob either Greeks, Turks, Jews, or heathens, and bring what they have stolen into the English camp."

There is a scheme getting up, "A week in the Baltic for £8." A project for a monster pleasure-train through Germany has been frustrated by the unwillingness of the German railway directors to lower their fares.

A retired veteran in one of the line regiments in Galway, aged eighty-three, has just entered upon wedded life with a spouse reputed to be on the wrong side of fifty.

Lady Franklin refuses to accept a widow's pension. Sir John, she says, is not dead. Acting, however, in accordance with the contrary conviction expressed by the Lords of the Admiralty, the Prerogative Court of Canterbury has granted probate of the will.

"I remember," says John Wesley, "hearing my father say to my mother, 'how could you have the

patience to tell that blockhead the same thing twenty times over?' 'Why,' said she, 'if I told him but nineteen times, I should have lost all my labour.'"

At a recent meeting of the Synod of Angus, a speaker strongly objected to the recognition of American "D.D." degrees. No decision was come to, it being stated that the subject was likely to come before the Assembly.

Old Squire B— was elected Judge of the Inferior Court of some county in Georgia. When he went home his delighted wife exclaimed—"Now, my dear, you are Judge, what am I?"—"The same darned old fool you allers was," was the reply.—*American paper.*

The editor of the *Baltimore Sun* reports having just examined some samples of paper made of reeds or cane, of a kind which grows in great abundance in some of the States; and also a sample made from white pine shavings. It is said that the reeds abound upon the margin of streams, and will make excellent paper.

Mr. Simon said, at a meeting a few days ago of the Society of Arts, that it was a notorious fact that the great amount of blindness among compositors arose from the want of chimnies to their lamps. Such a statement seemed to him to be totally inconsistent with an age of civilization.

The crowded deck of an American packet—a Californian to the skipper of ditto. "I should like a sleeping berth now, if you please." Skipper: "Why where have you been sleeping these last two nights since we left?" Californian: "Wal, I have been sleeping a top of a sick man, but he's got better, and won't stand it no longer."

There was a "coach and four" wedding at Worley church, near Leeds, a fortnight ago, when, by an awkward accident, the bride was married, not to her lover, but to the "father," who already had a wife and several children! The clergyman, after taking advice, married the right couple on the following Monday; but on this occasion the parties slipped secretly to church in different directions.

A few days ago a strange spectacle was seen in an obscure place in Germany, called Echterbach—being nothing less than the annual procession of St. Willibrod, or the German jumpers. They numbered 8,000! Their mode of progressing is peculiar, as no walking is permitted. They first of all jump twice forwards, then once backwards, and thus gradually reach their goal.

There is a very extraordinary animal in Australia called the platypus. It is a mixture of the bird, beast, and fish; floats and feeds on the water, yet burrows in the ground; it also lays eggs and suckles its young when they are hatched. The body is about eighteen inches long, covered with a thick fur, like that of an otter; its fore feet are webbed, the hind ones have claws, and, still more contradictory, on the head is grafted a beak. This latter circumstance gave rise to a colonial riddle—"Why is a dun like a platypus?" "Because it is a beast with a bill."

The following maxims of Sir T. Fowell Buxton are worthy of being retained in the memory:—My maxims are, never to begin a book without finishing it, never to consider it finished without knowing it, and to study with a whole mind. If you seriously resolve to be energetic and industrious, depend upon it you will for your whole life have reason to rejoice that you were wise enough to form and act upon that determination. I hold as doctrine, to which I owe, not much indeed, but all the little success I ever had, viz., that with ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance all things are attainable.

BIRTHS.

June 18th, at Trowie Cottage, Trowbridge, the wife of the Rev. THOMAS MANN, of a daughter.

June 18th, at 60, Portland-place, the wife of JAMES WHATMAN, Esq., M.P., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

June 5th, at the Baptist Chapel, Tewkesbury, by the Rev. T. Wilkinson, assisted by the brother of the bridegroom, the Rev. J. May, late missionary in Jamaica, Mr. HENRY MAY, of 10, Clare-street, Bristol, to SARAH, eldest daughter of Mr. KNIGHT, deacon of the Baptist Church, Tewkesbury.

June 12th, at the Parish Church, Clapham, by the Rev. H. Lewis, M.A., FREDERICK, second son of THOMAS HEPBURN, Esq., of Clapham, to MARY, youngest daughter of the late THOMAS INGLE, Esq., of Belper, Derbyshire.

June 16th, at the National Scotch Church, Regent-square, by the Rev. James Hamilton, D.D., assisted by the Rev. David Blyth, brother of the bride, ALEXANDER DUNCAN, Glasgow, to MARGARET ADAMSON, third daughter of DAVID BLYTH, Esq., London.

June 19th, at the Caledonian-road Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. Ebenezer Davies, Mr. JAMES CORRETT to Miss MARIA HOWELL, both of Holloway.

June 20th, at the Congregational Church, Clapham, by the Rev. E. F. Woodman, Mr. ALFRED LANGFORD, of Ponder's End, to SUSAN, widow of the late Mr. JOHN SHOTTER, of Albert-square, Stepney.

DEATHS.

April 13th, at the Mauritius, on his way to England for the recovery of his health, Sir T. E. M. TURTON, Bart., in the 67th year of his age.

June 4th, at Wallingborough, to the great grief of many friends to whom she had endeared herself by the amableness of her disposition, and the consistency of her Christian character, JANE ELIZABETH, the affectionate wife of the Rev. T. THOMAS.

June 6th, at Southport, aged 64 years, JAMES DILWORTH, Esq., merchant, of Islington House, Salford, Lancashire.

June 18th, at the house of his uncle, High-street, Shoreditch, after a long and severe affliction, in the 11th year of his age, EDWARD BONNIN HENDERSON, the beloved and eldest son of the Rev. J. E. HENDERSON, Baptist missionary, late of Waldensia, now of Montego Bay, Jamaica.

June 14th, at the Vicarage, Maple Durham, Oxfordshire, after an illness of two days only, surrounded by his family and friends, the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord AUGUSTUS FITZCLAIR, in the 50th year of his age.

June 14th, at Leeds, the Rev. JOSEPH HOLMES, D.D., aged 64 years.

June 15th, in Mark-lane, JAMES KENDLE BROWN, Esq., the father of the Corn Exchange, in his 83rd year.

June 15th, at Catton Hall, Derbyshire, the Right Hon. HENRY TUFNELL, late M.P. for Devonport.

June 15th, at 4, Westbourne-park Villas, HARRIET, widow of JAMES MILL, Esq., late of the India House.

June 17th, HART DAVIS, Esq., F.R.S., of Bere-hill House, Whitechurch, Hants, late Deputy-Chairman of the Board of Excise.

June 18th, at his residence, Mitcham Common, aged 80 years, Mr. THOMAS PRATT, for many years senior deacon of the Independent Chapel, Mitcham, and a liberal supporter of the cause.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday evening.

The upward tendency in the English Funds still continues, although the reported order for the Russians to retire beyond the Pruth has not been confirmed. Notwithstanding an attempt at the commencement of business this morning to send down prices, there was soon a rebound of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, Consols for July rising from 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 93 $\frac{1}{2}$; they are now quoted wider at 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 93 $\frac{3}{4}$ ex div. Reduced have been operated in from 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ up to 93 $\frac{1}{2}$. The 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents. were first dealt in at 93 to 93 $\frac{1}{2}$, were then sent down to 92 $\frac{1}{2}$, and recovered again to 93 $\frac{1}{2}$. There is no alteration in the Unfunded Debt. Bank stock was dealt in at 204.

In Foreign Stocks, Peruvian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Bonds were weaker at 67 to 68, a fall of about $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; and the 3 per Cent Bonds were dealt in at 50 and 51. Mexican Stock at 24 $\frac{1}{2}$. Chilean 3 per Cents, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$. Ecuador Bonds, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. Russian 5 per Cent. Bonds declined to-day, being dealt in at 97 and 98, and the 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents, at 86. Sardinian Bonds keep up at 85 86 ex div. Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents, 61 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Railway Shares have been actively dealt in, with large bona fide purchases. Caledonians are at 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ 64. East Anglians are 18s. higher than yesterday. Great Westerns, 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ 80 $\frac{3}{4}$. East Lancashire, 61 higher. Edinburgh and Glasgow, 61 $\frac{1}{2}$. Great Northern, 99 $\frac{1}{2}$. Lancashire and Yorkshire, 66 $\frac{1}{2}$. Brighton, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$. North Westerns, 103 $\frac{1}{2}$. South Westerns, 88. Midlands, 66 $\frac{1}{2}$. North British, 35 $\frac{1}{2}$. South Eastern, 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ 65. Berwick, 78. York and North Midland, 53. The improvement is about $\frac{1}{2}$ on all the principal stocks. French shares are heavy. Antwerp and Rotterdam, 59 paid, were sold at 54, in prospect of the final call due this week.

There was no animation in mining shares. Banks were rather firmer, particularly the London Joint Stock Banks. London Dock Stock changed hands at 103 $\frac{1}{2}$. Crystal Palace Shares were again weaker at $\frac{1}{2}$ prem, and $\frac{1}{2}$ for the new shares.

The proposals for the Russian loan about to be contracted in Holland have just been put forth. The amount is 50,000,000 of silver roubles, or nearly £8,000,000 sterling, in a 5 per cent. stock, with dividend from the 1st of April, at a price equal to about 92 $\frac{1}{2}$. The houses by whom it is introduced are Messrs. Stieglitz, at St. Petersburg, and Messrs. Hope, at Amsterdam; and it is said that in the latter city a good amount has been subscribed.

The specie arrivals of the week have been very large, amounting to a total of nearly £800,000. Of this £106,000 from New York, £180,000 (chiefly silver) from the West Indies, about £500,000 from Australia, and the remaining £34,000 from Brazil and other places. The exports have been limited, and have probably not reached £160,000, including some silver to the continent, several small parcels of gold to Paris, and £30,000 by the Great Britain to Australia. The Australian steamer has since arrived with 197,000 ounces of gold, valued at £503,000.

The accounts of the state of trade in the manufacturing towns during the past week present no variation, but the tendency has been toward confidence. At Manchester increased steadiness and a general healthy, although cautious feeling, have formed the chief characteristics of the market. At Birmingham an advance in iron at the approaching quarterly meeting of the trade is regarded as certain, and the chief anxiety of the principal firms is to prevent it from being too precipitate. In all the other branches of the business of the town activity likewise prevails, but the high prices of food and necessities cause an increase of pauperism as compared with the remarkably small totals of last year. The Nottingham report conveys the satisfactory intelligence that the failure of the operative carpenters in their attempted war against machinery has been complete, the places of the unionists being rapidly supplied by less ignorant workmen from other towns. In the woollen districts transactions continue on a favourable scale; but the worsted trade has been disturbed by failures, comprising Messrs. Thomas Taylor and Sons, for £100,000; Messrs. Howatts, Moon, and Co., for £18,000; Messrs. Halshead, for £12,000; and three or four of smaller amount.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week show a considerable increase. They have comprised altogether sixteen vessels—seven to Sydney, with an aggregate burden of 4,597 tons; five to Port Phillip, with an aggregate burden of 3,739 tons; one to New Zealand of 672 tons; one to Hobart Town, of 817 tons; one to Adelaide of 456 tons; and one to Perth, Western Australia, of 499 tons. Their total capacity was consequently 10,474 tons. The rates of freight continue to exhibit great heaviness.

The general business of the port of London has been active during the past week. The number of vessels reported inward was 200, being the same as in the previous week. The number cleared outward, was 131, being an increase of seven more than in the previous week. Of these, 24 were in ballast, and 16, as above stated, for the Australian colonies.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Satdy.	Mon.	Tuesd.
3 per Ct. Consols	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red New 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Stock	206	206	204	206	205	206
Exchange Bills	par	4 pm.	par	3 pm.	3	3 pm.
India Bonds	par	3 pm.	par	—	2	3 pm.
Long Annuities	—	4 9-16	—	—	4	4 11-16

The Gazette.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 26, of the week ending on Saturday, the 10th day of June, 1854.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	25,981,750	Government Debt	11,519,100
		Other Securities	2,364,900
		Gold and Silver	11,581,750
		Silver Bullion	—
	25,981,750		25,981,750

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000	Government Securities	—
Reserve	8,187,662	Dead Weight Annuity	10,094,481
Public Deposits	2,993,000	Other Securities	15,798,944
Other Deposits	10,483,130	Notes	8,687,848
Seven Day and other Bills	1,090,938	Gold and Silver Coin	746,303
	287,230,393		287,230,393

Dated the 6th day of June, 1854.

Friday, June 16th, 1854.

BANKRUPTCY.

ALLEN, L., Peterborough, Northamptonshire, builder, June 24, July 29; solicitors, Mr. Wright, South-square, Gray's Inn; and Mr. Whitson, Peterborough.

ARMIST, E., Manchester, smallware manufacturer, June 26, July 24; solicitors, Mr. Haigh, Liverpool; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

BROCKETT, R., Liverpool, carrier, June 28, July 17; solicitor, Mr. Bradley, Liverpool.

BURNS, A., Mile End, near Stockport, Cheshire, silk manufacturer, July 3 and 30; solicitors, Messrs. Parrott and Co., Manchester.

BURTON, T., Bagley, Worcestershire, builder, June 26, July 17; solicitors, Messrs. Houlston, Halesowen, and Hodgson, Birmingham.

COCHRAN, J., Beccles, Devonshire, grocer, June 30, July 30; solicitors, Messrs. Little and Woolcombe, Devonport; and Mr. Stoddart, Exeter.

HEWSON, E., Louth, Lincolnshire, tank-maker, June 26, July 26; solicitors, Messrs. Ingilby and Ball, Louth; and Messrs. Wells and Co., Hull.

HUNT, J., Burley, Lancashire, grocer, June 29, July 30; solicitor, Mr. Taylor, Manchester.

MERRICK, J. T., Hereford-road, Westbourne-grove, builder, June 24, July 29; solicitor, Mr. Boddall, Queen's-square.

ROBERTSON, F. G., Commercial-road, Limehouse, timber merchant, June 27, July 26; solicitor, Mr. Murray, London-street, Fenchurch-street.

TACKSON, P., Birchin-lane, City, merchant, June 22, July 27; solicitors, Messrs. Scott and Combs, Bucklersbury.

WOLLASTON, R. G., Malpas Castle, Shropshire, surgeon, June 27, July 20; solicitors, Mr. Griffiths, Bishop's Castle; and Mr. Slaney, Birmingham.

WORSALL, J., Bolton and Manchester, manufacturer, July 4 and 31; solicitors, Messrs. Atkinson and Co., Manchester.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

W. JOHNSON, Bradford, Yorkshire, butcher.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.

WILKS, J., Crimscoth-street, Bermondsey, wheelwright, first div. of 1s. 6d., June 21, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Moorgate-street—MOMES, D. E., Liverpool, merchant, first div. of 4s., June 18, and any subsequent Monday, at Mr. Bird, Liverpool.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CARSWELL, W., Jun., Glasgow, writer, June 26.

HARDIE, A., Linlithgow, carrier, June 27.

JAMESON, J., Paisley, glazier, June 24.

MILL, W., Dundee, saddler, June 26.

PAYSON, J., Comar-Angus, brewer, June 22.

Tuesday, June 20th, 1854.

This "Gazette" contains notices that the following places have been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein:—Primitive Methodist Chapel, Seend, Wiltshire. Catholic Apostolic Church, Chatham.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

THORNTON, E. A., Bath, stationer.

GARR, J. and M., Liverpool, boot manufacturer.

BANKRUPTCY.

MEER, J. C., Hastings, bootmaker, June 27, July 27; solicitors, Messrs. Norton and Ben, New-street, Basingstoke.

RAY, J. L., Caroline-place, City-road, builder, June 27, July 27; solicitors, Messrs. Gosson, Son, and Parnsperger, Bedford-row.

ROSE, G., Brighton, heavy stablekeeper, June 20, July 20; solicitors, Messrs. A'Beckett, Simpson, and Warner, Golden-square.

ROBERTS, H., Warren-street, Fitzroy-square, and Brook-street, New-road, pianoforte manufacturer, June 20, Aug. 4; solicitor, Mr. West, Chancery-lane, Mansion-house.

LAWSON, G. T., Brighton, perfumer, June 20, Aug. 4; solicitors, Mr. Barton, Great James-street, Bedford-row; and Mr. Kenneth, Brighton.

SMITH, A., Fenchurch-street, merchant, July 1 and 29; solicitors, Messrs. Oliveron, Lavie, and Peachey, Fredericks-place, Old Jewry.

CONAN, L., Luddington, Northamptonshire, corn dealer, July 4, and Aug. 1; solicitor, Mr. Elard, Tring-square.

MILTON, W., Tonbridge, miller, June 27, and Aug. 1; solicitors, Messrs. Smith, Seabright, and Croft, Basinghall-street; and Messrs. Seabright and Carnell, Tonbridge.

BROWN, A. S., New Bond-street, fancy repository, June 30, and Aug. 1; solicitors, Messrs. Hodgson and Burton, Salisbury-street, Strand.

HARRIS, W., Stangate-wharf, Lambeth, carrier, and Rainham, Essex, brickmaker, June 30; solicitor, Mr. Jones, Quality-court, Chancery-lane.

RAWFIELD, W., Wolverhampton, hop-merchant, July 6 and 30; solicitors, Mr. Wilmoth, High-street Southwark; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

SHARP, G. L., Oswestry, Shropshire, draper, July 7 and 30; solicitors, Mr. Crox, Oswestry; and Mr. Bece, Birmingham.

TURNER, W. M., Brecon, innkeeper, July 3 and 31; solicitors, Mr. Watkins, Brecon; and Messrs. Bayan and Girling, Bristol.

BLAKEMORE, J., and BARRELL, Y., Bradford, Yorkshire, brickmakers, June 30, July 24; solicitors, Mr. Taylor, Bradford; and Mr. Blackburn, Leeds.

PINCO, T. O. W., Manchester, merchant, July 1 and 21; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester.

CUMMINS, T., Gateshead, painter, June 28, August 3; solicitors, Messrs. Stable and Dees, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

COLVIN, A., AINSIE, W., COLVIN B. D., ANDERSON, T., and AINSIE, D., Calcutta, merchants, eighth div. of 10 annas Company, per 100 stocks rupees, any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.—DAVEY, C., Newman-street, artists' colourman, final div. of 90s., on Wednesday next and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Bank-court, Basinghall-street.—HARDWICK, A., Windsor, linen-draper, second div. of 6s. 10d., and 12s. 6d. on new proofs, on Wednesday and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Bank-court, Basinghall-street.—SAMUEL, M., Castle-street, Houndsditch, dealer in watches, first div. of 8d., on Wednesday next and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Bank-court, Basinghall-street.—REILLY, J. F., Liverpool, coal merchant, first div. of 4d., any Monday, Mr. Bird's,

Liverpool.—OSMON, N., Preston, tailor, fourth div. of 6d. any Tuesday, at Mr. Harwood's, Manchester.—WOOD, M., and WILKINS, J., Openshaw, Lancashire, boiler-makers, first div. of 6d. 2d., and 3d., on the separate estates of M. Wood, any Tuesday, at Mr. Harwood's, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CLARK, D., Glasgow, commission agent, July 3, at 6 o'clock.

Markets.

MARK LANE, LONDON, Monday, 12th June, 1854.

There was very little business in the market, and the finest samples went off readily at fully last Monday's prices. Inferior qualities were difficult to quit at previous prices. Foreign wheat being held for rather more money, the market checked, and there was less activity than on Friday. The arrivals of oats were moderate, and fresh corn reached 5d. per qr. more than on Monday last. The weather has been more settled. There was less doing in wheat for French account. The current prices are under:—

Wheat—		Barley—		Peas—	
Essex and Kent, Red	88 to 90	Danish	—	—	—
Ditto White	74 to 84	Konigsberg, Red	—	—	—
Line, Norfolk, &	—	Pomeranian, Red	—	—	—
Yorkshire Red	74 to 84	Rostock	—	—	—
Northumb. & Scotch	74 to 84	Danish & Holstein	—	—	—
Rye	48 to 50	East Prussian	—	—	—
Barley malting (new)	34 to 36	Petersburg	—	—	—
Distilling	35 to 36	Riga and Archangel	—	—	—
Malt (pale)	60 to 70	Polish Odessa	—	—	—
Beans, Maragan	40 to 54	Mariampol	—	—	—
Ticks	40 to 42	Taganrog	—	—	—
Harrow	42 to 44	Egyptian	—	—	—
Pigeons	25 to 56	American (U.S.)	—	—	—
Peas, White	50 to 52	Barley Pomeranian	—	—	—
Grey	40 to 42	Konigsberg	—	—	—
Maple	40 to 42	Danish	—	—	—
Boilers	50 to 52	East Prussian	—	—	—
Tares (English)	40 to 52	Egyptian	—	—	—
Foreign	40 to 52	Odessa	—	—	—
Oats (English feed)	28 to 30	Beans—	—	—	—
Flour, Town made, per	—	Horse	—	—	—
Sack, of 48 lbs.	54 to 56	Pigeon	—	—	—
Linseed, English	56 to 58	Egyptian	—	—	—
Baltic	56 to 58	Peas, White	—	—	—
Black Sea	56 to 58	Oats—	—	—	—
Hempseed	36 to 40	Dutch	—	—	—
Canaryseed	54 to 56	Jahde	—	—	—
Clearseed per cwt. of	—	Danish	—	—	—
110 lbs. English	48 to 52	Danish yellow seed	—	—	—
Germans	50 to 52	Swedish	—	—	—
French	40 to 44	Petersburg	—	—	—
American	40 to 42	Flour, per bar. of 160 lbs.	—	—	—
Linseed Cakes	£13 10 to £14	New York	—	—	—
Rape Cake 25 to 26 per ton	—	Spanish per sack	—	—	—
Rapeseed 234 to 236 per last	—	Caraway Seed	—	—	—

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SUNDAY, Monday, June 19.

The supply of foreign stock in to-day's market was moderate, and in somewhat improved condition. All breeds were dull and lower. The receipts of beasts from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, were seasonably good; but their general weight and condition showed a slight falling off compared with Monday last. Although the attendance of both town and country butchers was rather extensive, the Beef trade was in a sluggish state, at Friday's decline in the quotations of 2d. per lb. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received 1,000 Scotch and Short-horns; from other parts of England 600 of various breeds; and from Scotland 800 horned and polled Scotch. There was a decided increase in the supply of sheep; the Munster trade was, however, inactive, at the depression in value submitted to on Friday, viz. 2d. per lb. The best old fowls realized 4s. 10d. per lb. We were well supplied with Lamb, 4s. 6d. per lb. of which not a small quantity, at 2d. per lb. The supply of Calves being large, the Veal trade was heavy, 4s. per lb. beneath the currencies obtained on this day at night. We had a slow sale of Pigs, on former terms. The supply was moderate.

Per lb. to sink the offer.

Cattle and inferior		Prime cattle	
Beasts	3 3 3 6	led Sheep	4 2 4 2
Second quality do.	3 3 3 6	Prime South Down	—
Prime large Oxen	4 3 4 4	Sheep	4 3 4 3
Prime Scotch, &c.	4 3 4 4	Large coarse Oulves	3 3 3 3
Cattle and inferior	3 3 3 6	Prime small do.	3 3 3 3
Sheep	3 3 3 6	Large Hogs	3 3 3 3
Second quality do.	3 3 3 6	Neat small Porkers	4 3 4 3

Lambs 4s. 6d. to 5s. 10d.

Suckling Calves, 22s. to 24s.; and quarter-old store Pigs, 90s. to 27s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, June 19.—Since Monday last the supply of such kind of meat on sale in these markets have been on the increase. A good business has been doing, yet prices have had a downward tendency.

Per lb. by the carcass.

Interior Beef		Small Pork	
3 3 3 3	3 3 3 3	Interior Mutton	3 3 3 3
Middling do.	3 3 3 3	Middling do.	3 3 3 3
Prime large do.	3 3 3 3	Prime do.	3 3 3 3
Do. small do.	3 3 3 3	Veal	3 3 3 3
Large Pork	3 3 3 3	Lambs	4s. 6d. to 5s. 10d.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—The transactions in grain, Butter last week were few and limited. Fine quality was scarce, and 2s. dearer. Some prime Limerick was sold at 90s. No improvement occurred in the value or demand for middling and inferior kinds; the variety and low-priced supplies from abroad nearly superseded them. Foreign was plentiful, and 2s. to 3s. cheaper. Friesland, 86s. to 88s.; Kiel, 82s. to 84s.; Zealand, 84s. to 86s.; Holland, 74s. to 76s.; Leer, 72s. to 74s.; French, 68s. to 72s.; Bosch, 64s. to 66s. Bacon was in active request. Best Irish and Hambro' of mild cure 3s. per cwt. higher. American sides and middles were also more sought after, and the turn drier. Hams and Lard scarcely varied.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

Friesland per cwt.		Cheshire (new) per cwt.	
88 to 90	88 to 90	Cheddar	68 to 70
Kiel	94 to 96	Double Gloucester	68 to 70
Dorset	100 to 104	Single do.	68 to 70
Carlton	—	York Hams (new)	70 to 72
Waterford	—	Westmoreland, do.	72 to 74
Cork (new)	84 to 94	Irish do.	68 to 70
Limerick (old)	—	Whitehead Bacon (green)	68 to 70
Sligo	—	Waterford	68 to 70
Frank, per doz. 11s. 6d. 12s. 6d.	—		—

SEEDS, Monday.—In agricultural seeds there is no trade passing, and values are unaltered. Canary seed meets more inquiry, and with limited supply an advance of 2s. to 3s. per qr. was obtained this morning. The demand for Linseed is very inactive, both on the spot and for forward delivery. The quality here is, by no means large; but we understand extensive supplies are on passage from Calcutta. In Cakes very little is doing on former terms.

COVENT GARDEN, SATURDAY, June 17.—Fine growing weather having at last arrived, all kinds of vegetables are improving fast, both in quality and quantity. New Grapes have become abundant and cheap. Cherries still realise from 2s. to 3s. per lb. Strawberries are much more plentiful. Cucumbers vary from 2d. to 1s. each. The sale for old Potatoes is heavy, and the best samples are down from 2s. to 2s. 3d. per ton. Asparagus continues to come in at 3s. to 3s. 6d. per hundred. Carrots and Turnips are cheaper. Some good Cauliflowers have made their appearance at from 6d. to 1s. Among salad vegetables are Radishes at from 1d. to 2d. per bunch; Lettices at 9d. to 1s. per score, and Endive at 1d. to 2d.

each. There are also excellent Carrots, Globe Artichokes, and Peas from France; likewise Tomatoes at from 9s. to 12s. a-dozen. Cut flowers consist of Anemones, Cyclamens, Heaths, Lily of the Valley, and Roses.

TALLOW, Monday, June 19.—Our market is steady, and prices are on the advance. P.Y.C., on the spot is quoted at 64s.; and for forward delivery, 65s. per cwt. Town Tallow is 62s. 9d. net cash. Rough fat, 3s. 9d. per cwt.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, June 19.—The quantity of old potatoes on sale here is small; but the demand for them is heavy, and prices rule very uncertain, viz., from 100s. to 180s. per ton. New qualities are coming freely to hand, and good clearances have been made as follows:—English, 12s. to 24s.; foreign, 7s. 6d. to 12s. per cwt. Last week's imports were 3,350 baskets, 681 bags from Rotterdam, and 203 sacks from Dublin.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, June 19.—The plantations continue to exhibit every appearance of a severe blight, and the chances of an average crop are becoming very precarious. Holders of Hops are very firm, and prices have been well maintained at the late advance. Duty, £105,000 to £110,000.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The market for wool of all descriptions has been dull. The arrivals in London last week were 11,157 bales, of which 37 were German, 79 Spanish, 5,580 Sydney, 1,377 Van Diemen's Land, 4,097 Port Phillip, and 87 bales Mogadore. The large increase in the imports of foreign and Colonial wool into England, during the present year, together with the comparative tightness of money, has, no doubt, operated seriously upon this market, especially as large acceptances for Colonial wool are still outstanding. The total arrivals this year are about 140,000 bales, against 197,000 ditto in 1853. The stock on hand is larger, and many parties are anticipating a further decline in the value of both foreign and colonial. Since Monday last the transactions in this market have been on a very limited scale; but we have no further change to notice in prices.

	s. d.	s. d.
South Down Hoggots ..	1 0	1 1
Half-bred Ditto ..	0 11	1 0
Wool clothing ..	0 11	1 0
Kent Fleeces ..	1 0	1 0
Combing Skins ..	0 10	1 0
Flannel Wool ..	0 10	1 1
Blanket Wool ..	0 7	1 0
Leicester Fleeces ..	0 10	1 0

COALS, Monday.—A general sale, at an advance on the rates of last day. Huttons, 20s. 3d.; Lambton, 19s. 9d.; Russell Huttons, 19s. 9d.; Belmont, 19s.; Hough Hall, 19s.; Hartlepool, 20s.; S. Hartlepool, 19s. 9d.; Wylam, 19s. 9d.; Eden, 19s. 3d.; Hartley's 12s.; Bells, 18s. 6d.—68 fresh arrivals.

BREAD.—The prices of Wheat Bread in the Metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; and Household do., 8d. to 9d. per 4lbs. loaf.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, June 19.—The market closed heavily, and prices of all kinds are unaltered. Buyers try hard, but really get very little advantage in prices of all solid American. The sales amounted to between 6,000 and 7,000 bales, comprising 100 Bahas, at 6d. to 6½d.; 250 Egyptian, at 5½d. to 10d.; 400 Surat, at 3½d. to 4d.; and 50 Sea Islands, at various prices. 1,000 bales of Americans were taken for export and on speculation.

Advertisements.

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WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

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Year.	Number of New Policies issued.	Annual Premiums on New Policies.	Amounts Assured by New Policies.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1850-51	293	2,427 2 2	66,990 8 6
1851-52	127	1,236 15 9	36,749 5 6
1852-53	197	2,287 4 7	69,918 6 0
1853-54	371	5,983 8 2	138,253 8 10
Total..	988	11,934 10 8	341,911 8 10

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